



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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TRANSATLANTIC BUSINESS.

THE Publisher desires to inform manufacturers and wholesalers that the issue of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* for May 25 will be specially circulated to transatlantic buyers. Canada, the United States, and the West Indies will be thus covered, and, as export business in chemicals, medicines, and similar products with these countries is on the increase, the circulation of May 25 will be a good chance for improving the business of those who advertise in it.

Summary.

A NUMBER OF NOVELTIES are described on p. 751.

CLEOPATRA'S remedies for baldness are mentioned on p. 761.

MR. DALTON (of Dalton & Young) supplies this week's faunal portrait (p. 758).

SOME INTERESTING FACTS in regard to the future of Java cinchona are given on p. 761.

FURTHER EVIDENCE in the Wellingborough strychnine-poisoning case is reported on p. 746.

MESSRS. ELLIMAN are taking proceedings against violators of their anti-cutting agreement (p. 763).

A SUCCESSFUL LOCAL MEETING, convened by the Pharmaceutical Society, has been held at Manchester (p. 756).

THE CHEMISTRY OF CYANOGEN COMPOUNDS is graphically dealt with on p. 770, *à propos* of current interest in sulphocyanides.

MR. C. B. ALLEN, Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society, gave evidence before the Early-closing Committee on Monday (p. 755).

WE print the results of our postcard vote in regard to the Council election, and make some final remarks in respect to the contest (p. 760).

IN SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS will be found new facts regarding terpineol, oil of rue, cytosine, cinchonidine, and the mandragora alkaloids (p. 758).

THERE was a little tiff at the last meeting of the Chemical Society in regard to papers being taken as read. Professor Armstrong left the meeting (p. 752).

THE FIGURE OF AN EYE as a trade mark is claimed by a Leeds oculist. A chemist in York, who uses one on a handbill, has been fined 2s. 6d. for infringement (p. 775).

M. BERTHELOT was received into the French Academy last week. We give some extracts from his speech, and from that of M. Lemeitre, who received him (p. 750).

A GLANCE at the pictures and other works of art in the Royal Academy shows that there are a few things there which should interest our readers. See notes on p. 757.

COCAINE is 3s. per oz. dearer, menthol is easier, and cassia oil is firmer. Cocoa butter was dearer in auction. The first-hand drug-sales, which are reported on p. 777, were small.

PART of the skin of an okapi and a large collection of luminous bacteria were among the novelties shown at the *conversazione* of the Royal Society on Wednesday night (p. 776).

MR. JOHN ISLIP, *alias* Louis, *alias* Cowper, has been released from prison and has promptly recommenced giving chemists small orders, which they should beware of (p. 763).

THE CASTNER KELLNER COMPANY are the defendants in an action taken against them for infringement of earlier patents than their own for the electrolytical production of alkali (p. 766).

THE GLASGOW EXHIBITION appears to be a big success. We devote some space to a first glance over it, and make special reference to the chemical and pharmaceutical exhibits (p. 769).

THE NAMES of the fifteen gentlemen who are to be elected Fellows of the Royal Society are given on p. 765, and we print some interesting notes on the scientific exhibits at this week's *soirée* on p. 776.

CAMPHORATED OIL has brought two retailers into trouble at Portsmouth (p. 766). Mr. A. H. Allen claims that prosecutions have established that the oil keeps well, as samples are good in his district now (p. 748).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND has obtained an important High Court judgment to the effect that two brothers trading as a limited company constitute a person within the meaning of the Poisons Act (p. 766).

MR. J. WILSON SWAN, F.R.S., speaking at the dinner of the Manchester section of the Society of Chemical Industry, disclaimed the invention of the photographic dry-plate. He said he only discovered the method of making it rapid (p. 762).

AT the Society of Chemical Industry in London this week Dr. Mollwo Perkin showed that ammonium sulphide is better than caustic alkali in separating the antimony, arsenic, and tin group of sulphides. There was also an interesting paper on tanning materials (p. 752).

THE METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD refuse to give the dispensers the same salary as under the Local Government Board's scheme. Mr. Percy Wells moved to the latter effect, and the Board replied that young men are wanted to occupy the positions for a few years only (p. 747).

English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

The Romford Guardians have decided to allow their medical officers to use antitoxic serum in cases of diphtheria, and to pay a fee of 2s. 6d. for each case cured.

Mrs. Kirby, wife of Mr. J. H. Kirby, chemist and druggist, Ongar, met with a serious accident in London on April 27, by accidentally falling through a window four storeys high.

The tender of Boots' (Limited) for the house and shop at No. 1 Queen Street, Oxford, has been accepted by the Oxford City Council. The rental is 300l. a year for twenty-one years.

An order was made at Plymouth Police Court on May 2, for the removal of William Uglov Carveth, chemist and druggist, King Street, Plymouth, to an asylum, he being certified insane.

The St. Helens woman, who was charged with administering vermin-killer to her child and herself, and with causing the child's death, has been ordered to be detained as a criminal lunatic.

On Thursday evening of this week members of the Liverpool Chemists' Association met in the coffee-room of the Lyceum to make a presentation to Mr. John Smith, a former active member of the Association, now in Hastings.

At Lichfield on May 2, Mr. T. A. Coltman, Messrs. Needhams (Limited), and Mr. J. Bell, all chemists of Lichfield, were each fined 10s. and costs for having in their possession dispensing-scales which the inspector said were 3 gr. out of balance.

At a recent meeting of the Grimsby Board of Guardians Dr. Westlake reported that invalid bovril had been tried in the workhouse, and had been found to be more, nutritious than beef tea. The result of its adoption will be a saving of 77l. 6s. 8d. per annum.

At a recent meeting of the Council of the London Chamber of Commerce a resolution was passed in favour of giving practical support to the London School of Tropical Medicine, and members are being invited to subscribe financially towards the support of the School.

A leading Glasgow citizen having placed a substantial sum of money for that purpose at the disposal of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, an expedition against the *Anopheles* mosquito will be despatched this month to West Africa. A year's experiment will be tried in a selected West African city.

A pugnacious warehouseman named Goertz was fined 1l. at Bow Street on May 6 for assaulting an actor and causing him to fall through a chemist's window in Theobalds Road. The Magistrate further intimated that prisoner would probably be sued in the City Court for damage to the window.

At Clerkenwell on May 6, John Armitage (53), dental surgeon, Highgate, was remanded on a charge of throwing corrosive fluid with intent to harm his stepson. Prisoner said the fluid was a mixture of spirit of salt, potash, and water, which he used for keeping glasses clean, and which he threw over his stepson by mistake.

Questions were put at a meeting of the Blackburn Town Council on May 1 as to why the pharmacy classes, which were to have been held in connection with the Technical Education scheme, had been dropped. The reply was that the Technical School Committee did not think they should keep the school open for a minority to the exclusion of the majority.

With the King.

At the Court held at St. James's Palace on Friday, May 3, Mr. G. Claridge Druce, M.A., Mayor of Oxford (President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference), had the honour of

being presented to the King. At the same time Mr. W. J. Barnes, Mayor of Dover, who is a chemist and druggist, was also presented.

When the Royal Society presented an address to the King in February, his Majesty said, "In token of my good will I shall be pleased to inscribe my name as patron in the charter-book." At the Court on May 3 the Royal signature was written on a specially prepared and illuminated vellum sheet in this historical volume, which had been taken to the Palace for the purpose under the direction of the Home Secretary. The charter-book is a handsome volume, bound in crimson velvet, with gold clasps and corners, having on one side a gold plate bearing the shield of the Society, and on the other a corresponding plate showing the crest. The arms of England, superbly emblazoned, adorn the first page, and those of the Society appear on the next. The first page of the autograph portion of the volume exhibits within an ornamented scroll border, headed by the Royal shield, the signature "Charles R., Founder," written evidently with a finely-pointed pen. Queen Victoria signed her name as Patron on a richly illuminated page, on which also appears the signature of the Prince Consort.

L.C.C. Botany.

For some time past the London County Council has arranged special beds of plants in Battersea, Ravenscourt, and Victoria Parks, with a view to affording assistance in the study of practical botany to scholars of elementary and secondary schools. At each of these parks about twenty beds are arranged near the paths, each bed containing specimens of a distinct order of plant, each plant being labelled with its common name and its Latin name. In order that the education by means of these small botanical gardens should be of a thoroughly practical character, teachers may obtain from the Council's Technical Education Board orders which will enable them to secure such specimens as may be required for teaching-purposes.

L.C.C. Jottings.

At a weekly meeting of the London County Council on May 7 it was agreed to allow the erection of gates and a wall at the entrance to the chemical-works of Messrs. F. C. Hills & Co., Creek Street, Deptford, at less than the prescribed distance from the centre of the street.

Provision is made during the coming financial year for a chief chemist, at a salary of 1,000l.; two senior assistants, at 450l. and 350l. respectively; four first-class assistants, three at 230l. each, and one at 245l.; four second-class assistants, ranging from 175l. to 200l.; one third-class assistant at 120l.; one fourth-class assistant at 100l., and one at 80l.; one messenger at 27s. a week, and one laboratory-attendant at 26s. a week.

In the estimate for the Main Drainage Committee a sum of 14,000l. is provided for chemicals. Last year the estimate was 12,740l., and the actual expenditure 10,220l.; the increase was said to be due to the rise in prices as compared with those adopted for last year's estimate.

For the Public Health Committee 350l. has been passed for experiments as to disinfection of premises, and the Water Committee has been provided with 1,450l. for the analytical examination of water.

The Strychnine-poisoning Case.

The inquest upon the exhumed body of the four-year-old child, Agnes Robina Johnson, was resumed at Wellingborough on May 2. Particulars of the previous evidence were given in our issue of April 27, page 675. Mr. Duke, the solicitor who appeared for Mr. O. E. Trezise, chemist and druggist, expressed his client's deep regret for an advertisement which had been issued since the opening of the inquest. It was inserted on the spur of the moment, and there was no intention of causing grief to anyone.

Dr. Stevenson, the Home Office analyst, deposed that he found strychnine in portions of the internal organs of the deceased which were sent to him. There were small quantities of strychnine in the blood, the viscera, and other parts. The cough-medicine in a phial contained aniseed and strychnine hydrochloride. In his opinion the child had received a fatal dose of strychnine. Dr. William Saunders said when called to see the child, she was convulsed

with slight remissions. The convulsions increased in severity, and she died in about an hour and a half. After consultation with Dr. Morris, who was called in about ten minutes before the child died, witness gave a certificate of death from convulsions. The convulsions that he saw were such as might be caused by strychnine-poisoning, but were not, in his opinion, characteristic of it. They might have been caused naturally, and he had no suspicions.

Octavius Edwards Trezise, chemist and druggist, 23 Church Street, Wellingborough, stated that he neither knew the parents nor the deceased, nor did he remember Mrs. Johnson coming to his shop for cough-mixture. The label on the bottle was his, but he could not say whether the writing upon it was his or not. Witness remembered a gentleman calling upon him in April, and drawing his attention to what was contained in some cough-mixture. There was no entry in his poison-book between February 27 and April 16. The gentleman asked him to show him his strychnine, and he showed him some solid and some in solution, the latter being taken from some poison-bottles, which were kept in a separate place by themselves. He did not admit he made a mistake. Witness remembered Inspector Brown calling upon him. He told him it was possible that he served Mrs. Johnson with a mixture for a cough, but he felt sure he never served such a mixture as he was told he did by a gentleman on the previous Saturday. He said he could not say which bottle he took the mixture from, if he supplied any, but he felt sure not from the strychnine-bottle. A bottle standing by the one containing strychnine he occasionally used for mixing up cough-medicine, and he might have said he might have accidentally used the wrong bottle, but he did not remember doing so. The two bottles produced were on the shelf two or three inches apart. It was an open shelf. He had had circulars regarding the regulations relating to the keeping of poisons. He was registered under the Pharmacy Act, 1838, and was aware of Section 1. He did not keep the solution of strychnine in any of the modes required by the Pharmaceutical Society's regulations of 1899. He never sold the strychnine. He kept a book in which he stated the ingredients of medicine that contained poison, and labelled all medicines that were dangerous "Poison." Witness was in his eightieth year. He had been in business as a chemist and druggist since 1837. His sight was failing.

The Coroner stated that Mrs. Johnson was unable to attend, and the inquest was then adjourned for a week.

Cricket.

The first league match of the season for the Wholesale Chemists' and Druggists' Cricket Championship was played on May 4 at Brockley between "Davy Hill's" C.C., and "Burgoyne Burbidge's" C.C. and resulted in a win for the former by 113 runs to 33. For the winners Tombs captured 4 wickets for 5 runs, and E. Sibley 4 wickets for 6 runs, the latter being top scorer with 42.

Fires.

A fire broke out on May 2 in a series of premises situated on the banks of the Medlock, in Sackville Street, Manchester. The outbreak originated on the premises of a packing-case maker, and extended to the yard of Mr. Hamor Lockwood, manufacturing chemist. After an hour's hard work the brigade managed to get the fire under control, but it smouldered for a considerable time, and much damage was done.

On May 3 a narrow escape from a serious fire occurred at Framlingham, Suffolk, on the premises of Mr. Reginald Betts, chemist and druggist. A lad was melting some beeswax on a gas-stove, the liquid boiled over and ignited some wood close by, the flames spread to a beam, and soon the whole place was full of smoke. Mr. Betts obtained assistance, and, with a plentiful supply of water, managed to subdue the flames before any serious damage was done.

A series of explosions and outbursts of flame in the sewers caused considerable consternation, on May 3, in a thickly populated locality in the Ancoats district. The principal industries carried on in the neighbourhood are tar and oil distilling, the treatment of gas-products, the manufacture of sulphuric acid and sulphate of ammonia, and the rectification of benzol, and it is conjectured that the generation of

explosive gases which have been allowed to enter the sewers is responsible for the alarming results. Inspectors have reported that on occasion spent acid from benzol was being put into the sewers, which on coming in contact with spent ammonia liquor gave rise to a pronounced evolution of sulphuretted hydrogen. The authorities are investigating the cause of the mishap.

Carbolic-acid Distribution.

At an inquest held at Stanstead Abbots on April 26, on the body of a woman who died through taking carbolic acid in mistake for quinine-wine, it transpired that the acid and the wine were stored in similar bottles, and were placed close together in a bedroom. The Coroner (Mr. T. J. Sworder) pointed out that the occurrence showed the danger of having such poisons about. Carbolic acid was now a poison under the Order of the Privy Council, and had to be dealt with as such. It ought to have been obtained in a poison-bottle. Chemists were bound to sell it in that way, and he wanted to know how the poison came to be placed in such a bottle, and why the name of the vendor did not appear on the label. The Coroner was informed that the carbolic acid was obtained from one of the Rural District Council's officials for the drains. The Coroner thereupon observed that the official in question ought not to sell poison, but was told that he had given it for nothing. Further evidence showed that the carbolic acid was put in any kind of bottle that was taken, but that a poison-label was put on the bottle, and the recipient cautioned. The Coroner: He may caution you all right when you have it, but you take it home and put it in the house where there is somebody who has not had a caution. Carbolic acid has been declared a poison, and anyone who buys it has to enter his name in a register at the chemist's, with his address, and the circumstances under which it is delivered. Such poisons ought also to be kept under lock and key.

The Supply of Workhouse Drugs.

The South Stoneham Board of Guardians on April 30 appointed a committee to report on the question of allowing Dr. Knight, of Shirley, the medical officer, a sum for supplying drugs to pauper patients.

In applying to the Wantage Board of Guardians, on April 30, for an increase of his salary of 30% a year, Dr. T. G. Emerson stated that he paid about one hundred visits to the workhouse, and supplied between 300 and 400 bottles of medicine a year. This worked out at an average of 1s. 4d. for each visit and bottle of medicine. An increase of 10% a year was granted.

At a meeting of the Tiverton Board of Guardians last week Mr. N. B. Grigg, for thirty-four years the medical officer for the Hockworthy district, applied for an increase of salary in consequence of the fact that the drugs and medical appliances now in use had increased in cost. The Board agreed to raise the salary from 10% to 15%.

Dispensers in Asylums.

At a meeting of the managers of the Metropolitan Asylum District on May 4, the Hospitals Committee submitted a report in which they stated they had had under consideration a petition from the dispensers in the Board's hospitals service, asking that the question of a revision of their salaries might receive attention. They had had before them particulars of the salaries paid to dispensers at the various metropolitan poor-law infirmaries, and found that the remuneration assigned to the office by the Board compared unfavourably with that paid to dispensers in those institutions. Considering all the circumstances, they thought some increase should be made in the salary at present assigned to the office, and they recommended—

That the managers do assign to the office of dispenser at the infectious hospitals a salary at the rate of 100% per annum, rising by 5% annually to 120%, together with the emoluments of dinner and tea daily, and that the wages scale be amended accordingly.

In making this recommendation, they consider that the maximum of 120% should be regarded as final, at all events, for some time to come.

Mr. A. C. Scovell moved the adoption of the recommendation, but Mr. J. H. Lile moved, as an amendment, that "110%" be

submitted for "100%," and "130%," for "120%" in the motion. In the course of the subsequent discussion it was asked why a dispenser in an infectious hospital should be paid less than one in a non-infectious hospital. Another member stated that the Local Government Board had sanctioned a maximum of 180% to public dispensers. Professor Smith said if the amendment were adopted they would have to consider the question of the salaries paid to the medical officers. The commencing salary now given to the assistant medical officers was 120%, and the amount given to the dispensers tended to get too near that scale. The assistant medical officers had to have a far more expensive and much longer training than the dispensers. Mr. Brass asked whether Professor Smith would like to work at the same rate, and Mr. Jackson Hunt said they did not want their dispensers to settle down to the work for the rest of their lives. They wanted young and smart men who would come in for a few years. Mr. Helby pointed out that assistant medical officers had the opportunity of rising considerably in their profession. He hoped the Chairman of the Committee would accept the amendment. Mr. Percy Wells, pharmaceutical chemist, in supporting the amendment, reminded the meeting that dispensers held in their hands the lives of hundreds of patients, and would be visited with severe penalties for any error they made. He considered that they ought to begin at 120% and rise to 150% per annum. He knew what dispensers had to undergo in the shape of examinations, which were very severe in comparison with what they were some years ago. Mr. Scovell, having replied, the amendment was put and lost by 30 votes to 20, the recommendation of the committee being then agreed to.

The Errand-boy's End.

At Kensington on May 2, Mr. Drew held an inquiry with reference to the death of Charles Hunt (15), an errand-boy at Thomas's Drug-stores, 105 Talbot Road, Bayswater. According to the evidence of Edward Smith, working at the same shop, deceased, who was a cheerful lad, was found in a sitting attitude with his head through a roller-towel. His feet were touching the ground, and the towel under his chin just prevented his sitting down. George Currie, an assistant at the shop, said that deceased had only gone three minutes before to wash some measures. There was nothing about which could have overcome him. Dr. Westwood said his autopsy showed no sign of a drug. Death was due to asphyxia from pressure of the towel on the neck. There was nothing to show the boy had had a fit, and witness could form no opinion as to whether it was intentional or not. The jury returned an open verdict.

Our Birmingham Budget.

Mr. Magor has left the "limited" firm, and secured a business at West Bromwich, so it is reported.

Mr. Bailey, whose Walsall business was merged into Magors (Limited), has left Walsall, and taken a business at Uppingham, in Rutlandshire.

Mr. J. W. Oliver, lecturer on botany to the Technical School, which post he has held for nearly thirty years, has resigned through ill-health, and it is suggested that a presentation should be made to him, taking the form of a purse of money and an address.

Warwick has now its technical school and chemical laboratories. They were opened last week, when speeches were delivered by Mr. Justice Kekewich and Dr. Lodge. Pharmaceutical students of the towns of Warwick, Leamington, and Coventry have each now ample means of studying chemical and botanical science practically.

The University authorities have now appointed its examiners, and amongst the list are gentlemen not unknown to pharmacy. Professor H. McLeod (chemistry), a former examiner to the Pharmaceutical Society; Professor Reynolds Green (botany), lecturer on botany at the Square; and Dr. A. P. Luff (forensic medicine and toxicology), a former Bell scholar and Pereira medallist of the Society.

Amongst the pioneers of the Consultative Institute is Mr. A. Chamberlain, of Kynoch's. He certainly does approve of its methods, for his firm employ their own solicitor, and are advertising for an unadmitted law-clerk in addition. One

would like to commend the latter arrangement to the Pharmaceutical Society, for its law-costs seem to be very heavy.

The case of "alleged poison in poultry-food," in which one analyst (Mr. Vaughan Hughes) found 0.128 gr. of arsenic per pound of maize-meal, and Dr. B. Hill found none at all, but thought the poultry had died from strychnine-poisoning, terminated last Friday (May 3), after dragging along some months, in a verdict for the defendants who supplied the meal.

Camberwell Drugs.

The Chemists' Defence Association is calling a meeting of chemists in business in Camberwell, to discuss the recent prosecutions under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts instituted by the Camberwell Borough Council. The meeting is to be held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road, at 3 P.M. on May 15, and Mr. C. Goddard Clarke, L.C.C., is to occupy the chair.

Camphorated Oil Improving, but Not in Monmouth.

In his report for the last quarter, Mr. A. H. Allen, public analyst for the West Riding of Yorkshire, observes that the fact that there has been no case of material departure from the official composition in samples of camphorated oil is an interesting refutation of the defence sometimes put forward that it is impossible to keep the article of constant composition, owing to the tendency of the camphor to volatilise. He had found that nothing was easier than to keep camphorated oil constant in quality for an indefinite period. During the quarter he had had samples of sal volatile which were seriously deficient in carbonate of ammonium.

During the past quarter, the county analyst for Monmouthshire has examined 116 samples under the Food and Drugs Acts. These included five camphorated oils, and one cream of tartar. Three samples of camphorated oil were respectively deficient in camphor 18.2 per cent., 23.3 per cent., and 80.75 per cent. One of the samples was compounded with colza oil, and another with mineral oil, in place of olive oil. The analyst remarks: "Camphorated oil has again proved to be a seriously adulterated article, which is, I think, much to be regretted, seeing that it is so universal and valuable a remedy within reach of everyone. No doubt the high price and scarcity of camphor make it worth while for certain manufacturers to cut down the quantity of camphor used; but I fail to see why so frequently oils other than olive should be employed, especially petroleum products, which have undoubtedly an injurious effect upon the skin."

Poisonings of the Week.

Laudanum and carbolic run neck-and-neck this week in their record of fatal poisonings. Of the twelve fatalities recorded these poisons were used in ten cases (five each), chloroform poisoning being the only other scheduled poison to cause death. The solitary unscheduled medium employed was salts of lemon, the body of an unknown man being found at Black Rock, Sussex, with, as a *post-mortem* revealed, 4 or 5 oz. (*sic*) of salts of lemon in the stomach. Attempted suicides with poisons have been numerous, and carbolic acid has been the favourite. In one case, at Plymouth, bichromate of potash was tried, and in another belladonna was taken by a Loughborough woman, but without success.—A man at Hull drank some mixture from a bottle which had been found in a dustbin, and died on his way to the infirmary. The bottle was found to be labelled "Fluid Extract of Aconite-root."—A man was found insensible in an hotel in Surrey Street, Strad, on May 4, with an empty phial clutched in his hand, and was taken to King's College Hospital; and an insurance-agent committed suicide in Kennington Park by taking poison (not named).—As briefly stated under this heading last week, a chemist's assistant, named Lyons, committed suicide at Bath. A later report of the inquest describes the victim as "Herbert Lyons, aged 39, chemist and manager to Messrs. Bright & Sons, chemists, Bath." Deceased was found on his bed, quite dead, with a bottle near at hand that had contained prussic acid. Mr. Bright stated that deceased had been worried over a love affair, had given way to drink, and was under notice to leave. He had been found trustworthy.

Dearer Aërated Waters.

At a specially convened meeting of the London branch of the Mineral-water Manufacturers' Association at the Hotel

Cecil on May 8, it was resolved, in consequence of the increased duty on sugar, to raise the price of small bottles of aerated waters by 1*d.* per dozen, and the price of large bottles 2*d.* per dozen. The provincial branches of the Association are expected to follow suit.

Store-prices.

The Army and Navy Co-operative Society (Limited) intimate the following price-changes:—

Reduced.—Yeatman's baking-powder to 3*s.* 6*d.* per tin; Amiral soap, two tablets, 6*s.* 9*d.*; nutmegs, 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb., ground, 2*s.* 3*d.*; antitoxine tablets to 1*s.* 2*d.* and 3*s.* 8*d.*

Advanced.—First Swiss milk 5*d.* per tin, 5*s.* per doz.; Nestlé's 5½*d.* and 5*s.* 6*d.* (both sweetened); Saxin, 8½*d.* and 1*s.* 2*d.*; soluble, 3*s.* 6*d.* per oz.; tabellæ, 9*d.* and 2*s.*; "tabloid," 1*s.* 3*d.* and 2*s.* 10*d.*

Additions.—"Zotal," 10*d.* a bottle and 3*s.* per gal.; Amel lotion, 4*s.* 5*d.*; Ricksecker's perfumery (various), Holland's Australian hair-restorer, 3*s.*; Benzoïn cucumber-cream, 1*s.* 3*d.*; Luce's Jersey eau de Cologne, 3*s.* 6*d.*; A. & N. meat and malt wine (2*s.* and 3*s.*); quinine-and-iron tonic (9*d.* and 1*s.* 5*d.*); and effervescing saline (1*s.* and 1*s.* 9*d.*).

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Quinine and Iron.

Jackson's pharmacy, Stephen's Green, Dublin, has been acquired by a firm of ironworkers.

A New Brougham.

The Dublin Corporation have granted to Sir Charles Cameron, city chemist, the use of brougham, horse, and coachman, in the exercise of his duties, which include those of medical officer.

The Trumpet's Blare.

A fierce controversy is raging in Cork through the medium of the local newspapers on the subject of chemists' charges. Each side has its supporters, and comparisons more forcible than flattering are made between "Bigoted Belfast" and "Rebel Cork." One writer wants to know where Cork chemists go to when they die. Mr. Richard Blair, of John Blair & Son's pharmacy, has entered the fray, and has sounded his trumpet so effectively that the Jerichoian wall of discussion bids fair to speedily collapse.

Drug-contract.

The Local Government Board object to the appointment of Mr. S. Bell, L.P.S.I., Londonderry, as contractor to the Derry Union, on the ground that his tender was not the lowest received. The Guardians are of opinion that the Local Government Board are treating them "like babies," and that the effect of going beyond Mr. Bell will be that the surplus articles will be lying rotting in store. They agreed to re-advertise for tenders.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Chemistry Dangers.

A class of boys in a Galashiels academy was engaged in experimenting with hydrogen last week when an explosion took place, and one of the boys was injured so severely in the face that it is feared he will lose his eyesight.

The Food and Drugs Acts in Fife.

The Convener's Committee of the Fife County Council held a Conference at Cupar on April 30 with representatives from burghs in the county with reference to proposals as to the administration of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

A circular had been issued suggesting that a joint administration of the Act should be agreed upon between the City Council and the burghs. Most of the representatives appeared to be in favour of suitable arrangements being made, and it was agreed that the Clerk to the County Council draw up a statement of the probable cost, and send it to the burghs interested.

Business Changes.

Mr. R. M. Lindsay, chemist and druggist, 140 Albert Street, Dundee, is opening a branch pharmacy at 41 Dens Road, Dundee, with Mr. A. N. Taylor, chemist and druggist, as manager.

Mr. William Davidson, wholesale druggist, Aberdeen, has removed from 52 Castle Street to fine new warehouses which have been recently constructed for him in Palmerston Road, off South Market Street, Aberdeen. The building, which is of granite, consists of five floors and a basement, and is nicely fitted in pitch-pine. A hydraulic lift, and a detached fireproof building in the rear for the storage of inflammable goods such as turpentine, are amongst the up-to-date facilities employed.

Glasgow Drugs.

In his quarterly report, submitted at a meeting of Glasgow Town Council last week, Dr. John Clark, one of the City analysts, reported that he had analysed, amongst other things, two samples each of mercury-ointment, Gregory's powder, and calcined magnesia, all of which were genuine. Dr. R. R. Tatlock reported that he had also analysed two samples each of Gregory's powder and mercury-ointment, all of which were genuine; but a sample of calcined magnesia contained 1 per cent. of carbonic acid. Dr. H. Harris, the Corporation analyst, reported that six samples of camphorated oil he had examined were genuine.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

A HOSPITAL NURSE'S ERROR.—A nurse in the Lariboisière Hospital, Paris, is under arrest on a charge of manslaughter. She administered chloride of zinc instead of a mixture of glycerin and honey to five patients, two of whom have died.

MISSING BANK-NOTES.—A student at the Paris School of Pharmacy hung his overcoat up the other day when going to work in one of the laboratories, but it was missing when he came out again. This was all the more vexing as he happened to have left in one of the pockets bank-notes to the value of several hundred francs and various papers of importance to him. The police are trying to find it for him.

A NEW DISEASE.—Microbophobia is a new disease, characterised by the fear of contracting infectious disease. In serious cases the patients will neither eat nor drink till the food or drink has been sufficiently sterilised, nor will they touch anything except with aseptic gloves. M. d'Arsonval had something to say in favour of the ubiquitous microbe at the Academy of Science's last meeting, pointing out that many are positively necessary for good health.

PEROXIDE OF HYDROGEN being frequently used in surgery, attention has been called by Dr. Moreau to the fact that when this fluid is used after operations it is liable to destroy catgut sutures. To this cause M. Moreau attributes a fatal case of hæmorrhage after amputation of the leg which occurred eight days after the operation. He found that a piece of catgut, identical with that used for the sutures and ligatures, placed in peroxide of hydrogen, quickly showed signs of disintegration. As the result of this experiment, M. Moreau concludes that it is dangerous to irrigate with peroxide of hydrogen when catgut ligatures are used.

THE ASSOCIATION OF FRENCH HERBALISTS held a banquet at a restaurant in the Palais-Royal, Paris, last Sunday night. The President of the Association, M. Viard, made a speech, in which he insisted on the claims of herbalists to the attention of the Chamber of Deputies on the ground that two many privileges are given to pharmacists. Under the law

of Germinal, Year XI., he said, herbalists have the right to vend indigenous plants, but when a plant such as kola is introduced, they are prohibited from selling it because it is of foreign origin. If they offer it for sale they risk prosecution and a heavy fine. They are also interdicted from selling many articles that grocers and colour-merchants retail daily, such as camphor, alum, boric acid, and aloes. Even senna, although obtained from a French colony, is interdicted, because Algeria was not a French colony in Germinal, Year XI. M. Maurice Certeux, who represented the Minister of Commerce at the function, promised to draw attention to the subject in the proper quarter.

THE ARSENIC-IN-BEER SCARE.—The Council of Hygiene of the Seine passed the following resolution at its last meeting:—

On account of the cases of poisoning reported in England, and especially at Manchester, and although no arsenic has been found at Paris in imported beer, the Council of Hygiene begs the Prefect of Police to call the attention of the proper Ministers to the possible introduction in France of beer, syrups, and jams of foreign origin that may contain poisonous or harmful ingredients.

If any steps are taken to curtail the sale of these articles it will be rather a serious thing for certain manufacturers and brewers, as British beer and jam have a comparatively large sale over here. One or two well-known French analytical chemists, holding official positions, have been in England since the scare making inquiries into its origin, but the result of their investigations has not yet been made known.

VACCINATION AGAINST DISTEMPER.—THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST announced some months ago that M. Waldeck-Rousseau, the French Prime Minister, is a firm believer in ordinary vaccination with calf-lymph against distemper, but many specialists disputed the claim. On Monday, May 6, Professor Chauveau announced at the Paris Academy of Sciences the discovery of a specific form of vaccination (the results of which are to be relied upon), due to researches and experiments carried out by Dr. Phisalix, who is an assistant in Dr. Chauveau's laboratory at the Paris Museum of Natural History. Having obtained a microbe from the blood and organs of a guinea-pig suffering from acute septicæmia, Dr. Phisalix inoculated dogs with this germ, and the result was a malady similar to distemper. Dr. Phisalix found the same microbe in the sick animals, and succeeded, by means of inoculations of attenuated cultures, in conferring immunity not only against natural contagion, but also against experimental transmission of the specific malady. It is claimed that this result seems to show that the immunity is of a radical character.

THE FRENCH ACADEMY.—M. Berthelot, the eminent chemist, ex-Minister for Foreign Affairs, and permanent Secretary of the Academy of Sciences, who has been elected a member of the French Academy in succession to M. Bertrand, the mathematician, was received into the famous assembly on Thursday, May 2, by M. Jules Lemaitre. Under the cupola of the Institute a distinguished audience was assembled, including the *élite* of the representatives of science, literature, diplomacy, and art in Paris. It was in many ways the crowning honour of M. Berthelot's career, this admission amongst the forty "immortals," and much interest attached to the ceremony owing to the fact that the member of the Institute who was to make "the reply," or the address of welcome to M. Berthelot, is one of his strong political opponents—M. Jules Lemaitre. But the latter is also prominent as being one of the finest living masters of the French language; so that the interest was double-edged. M. Berthelot entered the hall of the Institute at 2 o'clock. He wore his uniform of Academician, and the Grand Cordon of the Legion of Honour as a sash. His two seconders—MM. Freycinet, ex-Minister of War, and Ludovic Halévy—entered at the same time. It was his duty to first of all read a valedictory address in memory of the Academician, M. Bertrand, to whose fauteuil he succeeds. M. Berthelot was warmly applauded while he delivered his address, though his voice as he read scarcely carried well enough to reach all his audience. I give a translation of a passage or two:—

Among these honoured patrons of my election I will recall only Claude Bernard, Taine, Lecomte de Lisle, Alexandre Dumas,

Victor Hugo, and above all, my friend Joseph Bertrand, whose place I hold henceforth in a twofold way. Could I forget, finally, the closest companion of my life, Ernest Renan? With all these I lived in the greatest intimacy for nearly fifty years. I sat for long years with them in our common careers, and above all in our great brotherhood of the Institute, each in his own particular academy.

Without pretending to compare myself with these great men, I ask permission to invoke them as precedents. Joseph Bertrand, in particular, attached extreme importance to his connection with the French Academy.

M. Berthelot then went on to give a charming and detailed description of the career of his predecessor, M. Joseph Bertrand, and of his distinguished work as a mathematician, which he terminated by saying, "Such was the life of Joseph Bertrand—a model of the life of a *savant* of the first order of our generation." M. Lemaitre, in reply, spoke of M. Berthelot's relations with Renan and certain philosophic reflections suggested by these relations. The memory of this friendship of two great men would traverse the ages, said M. Lemaitre, and add a grace to their common glory. One or two passages from M. Berthelot's speech will bear repetition in English:—

You are the renovator of chemistry. There is no chapter of this science that you have not touched on in the six hundred publications that have emanated from you in the course of half a century. But it may be said that you have been principally attached to two general conceptions by which you have radically transformed it; these are organic synthesis and thermo-chemistry. . . . One of the marvellous consequences of your discoveries was to transform the empiric study of explosive matters into rigorous science, founded on the exact calculation of their energy. . . . Among all men occupied with science the chemist is he who answers the best to the idea which the masses, from the earliest ages, have formed of the *savant*, of the man who acts on Nature and knows her secrets. The *savant* for the ordinary man is not the naturalist, the historian, or the philologist; he is essentially the alchemist, the sorcerer, the Doctor Faustus, he who knows the virtue of bodies and their reciprocal influences, who even knows how to make new things, even gold and life—who can change the figure of things and create after God. . . . In your turn, after Lavoisier, you are the king of chemistry. You are, by your organic bodies produced artificially, the benefactor of national industry, and by the explosives with which you have armed it also the country's benefactor, of that country you love both for herself and for the sake of humanity, of which she is the great servant. With Pasteur, you will probably have been the most useful man of the nineteenth century to your fellows.

I may mention that M. Lemaitre's discourse referring to M. Berthelot's work alone would occupy about four pages of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

South African News.

(From our Colonial Correspondents.)

NATAL PHARMACY BOARD.—The regular quarterly meeting of the Board was held on April 11, at Maritzburg, the President (Mr. Geo. A. Champion) in the chair. There was a full attendance of members.

No BUBONIC PLAGUE had appeared in Durban when our correspondent there wrote in the middle of April. He adds: "As the epidemic is on the decrease at the Cape, we are hoping to be spared a visitation. Meanwhile, the Corporation has issued a notice of precautionary measures, which have had a good effect."

DIRECT LINERS v. MAIL-BOATS.—The uncertainty which has for some time attended the delivery of goods ordered from England by the Union-Castle line of steamships, owing to the heavy call upon it by the Imperial Government, has resulted in increased business for the Rennie and King lines of direct steamers. This applies not only to goods, but also to passenger traffic. Every direct liner is booked to the full some time in advance, as this is the usual time of year for people to take their trip home.

A SOAP TRADE-MARK DISPUTE.—At the Cape Town Supreme Court on April 20, before Mr. Justice Buchanan, application was made on behalf of Hugh G. Legg, for an order removing the trade-mark of a certain soap known as "Irish Crown" from the register of trade-marks. It appears

that the trade-mark was registered by Alexander Findlay, soap-manufacturer, in 1897. The applicant, who was at one time Findlay's agent in South Africa, but had ceased to be so, contended that the trade-mark should not have been registered, on the ground that it was a style by which a particular soap was commonly known. A rule *nisi* was obtained some time ago, and the applicant now sought to have it "made absolute." The respondent alleged that the proceedings had been maliciously instituted on account of the petitioner having left his employ, and claimed that the rule *nisi* should be discharged. In support of the respondent's contention several Port Elizabeth merchants filed affidavits, stating that when they bought "Irish Crown" soap they took it for granted that it was Alexander Findlay's soap. The petitioner, in reply, denied that he was ever in the employ of the respondent, but being a merchant in a large way of business in Cape Town, undertook the respondent's agency. It was also stated on affidavit that "Irish Crown" soap was manufactured by various firms in Belfast, and the respondent had no exclusive right. Giving judgment, Mr. Justice Buchanan said in his opinion the use of the words "Crown" or "Irish Crown" offended the provisions of the Act and were not registered. The object of registration was to protect a person who owned special qualities he himself had gained, but was never intended to enable a person to take advantage of the position of being the first person in the field, and so to secure to himself benefits which were never intended under the Trade-marks Registration Act. In his opinion the rule *nisi* must be made absolute, and the words "Trade-mark, Irish Crown" ordered to be removed from the register. The application was therefore granted, with costs.

Colonial and Foreign News.

GERMAN SACCHARIN.—A Reuter telegram from Berlin, dated May 7, states that the Reichstag Committee on the Saccharin Bill has concluded the second reading of the measure, and passed the whole Bill by 10 votes to 7.

TO IMPROVE JAPANESE EXPORTS.—A competitive exhibition of the principal articles of export will be held in Yokohama about September this year. The Department of Agriculture and Commerce has voted a sum of money to defray expenses.

AN ICHTHYOL SUIT.—An action has been entered against J. I. Gibbons & Co., of Pittsburgh, U.S.A., by the Ichthyol Company, of Hamburg. In the bill of complaint Messrs. Cordes, Hermann & Co (the Ichthyol Company) claim the entire ownership and the sole right to manufacture ichthyol, and the statement is made that Mr. Gibbons has been selling a product as ichthyol, under a label which is not genuine. When the suit was entered it was stated that a detective had spent several weeks in Pittsburgh working up the details. The damages claimed are estimated by the plaintiffs at \$10,000.

ZANZIBAR PRODUCE.—Mr. R. N. Lyne, Director of Agriculture at Zanzibar, in his annual report for 1899, just issued, states that the cultivation of vanilla is increasing, and that 3,000 vines are now planted out. No further expenditure has been incurred in experimenting with chillies, as they do not pay to cultivate in Zanzibar, except for the native, to whom time is no object. Their growth is uncertain, the crops light, and collection of the crop expensive. The year was a very bad one for cloves, the general crop of the island being, if anything, slightly less. Rubber, tea, and cocoa are also dealt with in the report, which, however, lacks interest owing to its stale information.

SOAPMAKERS' ORGANISATION.—The American Soap-manufacturers' Association was formed at Chicago on April 10. The following firms were represented: N. K. Fairbanks & Co., James S. Kirk & Co., Armour & Co., all of Chicago; Cudahy Packing Company, Omaha; Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati; Louis Walke & Co., St. Louis; J. G. Haas Soap Company, St. Louis; Eavenson & Co. and P. C. Tomson & Co., Philadelphia; Colgate & Co., New York; Schultz Soap Company, Zanesville, Ohio; Detroit Soap Company and Schulte Soap Company, Detroit; Maple City

Soap Company, Monmouth, Ill.; and Peet Brothers' Manufacturing Company, Kansas City, Mo. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. James B. McMahon, of the N. K. Fairbanks Company; Vice-President, Mr. Richard Colgate, of New York; Treasurer, Mr. William Peet, of Kansas City. The organisation is said to be for social and conference purposes, and is to replace the National Soap-makers' Association, which became defunct in 1891.

A POISONS ORDINANCE FOR CEYLON.—At a sitting of the Ceylon Legislative Council on April 11, the Attorney-General introduced an Ordinance to regulate the sale of poisons. The second clause of the Ordinance provides that the articles named in the schedule shall be deemed to be poisons, and also that the Principal civil medical officer may from time to time make an order declaring that any article named in such order is a poison. After that order has been made and approved by the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, and published in the *Government Gazette*, within fourteen days the article named shall become a poison for the purposes of this Ordinance. The provision of the law as set out in the Bill will be that no persons will be allowed to sell poisons without obtaining the licence of the Government agent who is the officer authorised under the Bill to issue a licence. The Bill provides for the due registration of such licences, and for the publication by the Colonial Secretary from time to time of the names of the persons licensed to sell poisons. The tenth clause provides for the wrappers or covers of the packages in which poisons are sold. The Bill has passed the first reading.

CHEMICALS EXPLODE.—The Griesheim-Elektron Chemical-factory, near Griesheim, Frankfurt-on-Main, was the scene of a terrible fire on April 25, which resulted in the death of about sixteen people and the injury of about a hundred and fifty. It appears that the fire broke out in the afternoon in the department where explosives are manufactured, and the brigade were occupied in endeavouring to master the flames when a terrific explosion occurred, which had the effect of considerably enlarging the area of the fire. A second explosion took place later, and the scene of the disaster became almost unapproachable, and the inhabitants of Griesheim were ordered to quit the village. Troops were requisitioned, and with the aid of the Frankfurt brigade they succeeded in subduing the flames about midnight. According to the newspaper accounts the damage is estimated at about five million marks (250,000*l.*), which is covered by insurance. By this disaster about one thousand workmen are temporarily thrown out of employment. The conflagration has also destroyed Marx & Müller's chemical-factory, and part of the Griesheim Colour-works. An explosion of picric acid is believed to have been the original cause of the fire. In the Reichstag on May 7, Herr Hoch, referring to the disaster, asserted that the authorities had not sufficiently enforced the law as to chemical-factories; and Count Posadowsky replied that the laws had not been violated. According to the present state of the inquiry an explosion of picric acid occurred at a stage when this chemical had not hitherto been considered explosive—namely, at the moist stage.

FRANCE BOUGHT FROM US (the United Kingdom) 5,234,000*l.* worth of chemical products during the first quarter of this year, or fully 3,000,000*l.* less than in the same time last year. In the same period we bought only 2,860,000*l.* worth of similar French articles, compared with 3,367,000*l.* last year. Of French medicinal herbs we imported to the value of 325,000*l.* in the same time.

THIS WEEK'S *Truth* contains a few paragraphs which are worth the attention of our readers. The *Strand* and *Windsor* magazines are blamed for circulating inset advertisements of the Drouet Institute for the Deaf; Nicholson's ear-drum advertisements are referred to as "a mischievous and cruel swindle," and a third deaf business carried on by "B. Clifton" is described with brutally frank detail. On another page we find a "private and confidential letter" written by Mr. A. B. Griffiths, president of the Society of Science, Letters, and Art of London, to an Italian duke, offering him the honorary membership and medal of the Society for 5*l.* *Truth* does not know who Mr. A. B. Griffiths may be, but advises him that his statement that "the Society is an important one" is absolutely untrue, and he runs some risk in seeking money by such representations. There is also an exposure of "Charles Montague," who, as Miss Young, at a Dudley address, is advertising "rheumatism cured like magic."

Chemical Society.

LAST week's meeting at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., on the evening of May 2, was rather poorly attended. The chair was occupied by Professor Emerson Reynolds (President). After preliminary matters had been disposed of, Professor H. E. Armstrong mildly complained of the increasing number of

PAPERS TAKEN AS READ.

He said it frequently happens that some of these papers contain points which members would be interested to hear, and he thought some system might be devised of reading the papers in abstract. Such a system prevails, he explained, in the German Chemical Society, which he had recently attended, and he found that the substance of all the papers is put before the members, and the system works admirably. He thought the same might be carried out here, and probably abstractors, such as Dr. Foster and Dr. Lapworth, would assist in putting the communications to the meetings.

The Senior Honorary Secretary (Professor Dunstan) said the sanction of the authors of the papers would have to be obtained, as their sole object in many instances was to establish priority, and they did not wish the papers to be read.

Dr. Wynne (Editor of the Society's *Journal*) sympathised with what Professor Armstrong had said, and was of opinion that the German Chemical Society's method might be tried.

After some further remarks, Professor Armstrong moved that the paper by Professor Perkin on "The Synthetical Formation of Bridged Rings—Part I.: Some Derivatives of Bicyclopentane" should be read. This was seconded by Mr. MacEwan, who considered the papers to be the property of the Society as soon as they were communicated, so that members were entitled to hear them.

The President explained some of the difficulties that would arise if all the papers were read, especially emphasising the fact that the meetings would be very prolonged.

Professor Tilden also said that if the thing were done it would be necessary that the rule on the back of the *Journal* as to the papers or abstracts of them being in the hands of the Secretaries before a certain day should be strictly enforced. He considered further that there would be difficulties in the matter if authors were not willing to co-operate. He proceeded to comment upon the Berlin Society's method as if it were an experiment, when

Dr. Wynne explained that it had been in force there some time.

Professor Dunstan: Do they read all the papers?

Dr. Lewkowitch replied to this that he had seen the Berlin system and considered that it worked well. Six or eight papers were frequently got through in ten minutes, which was all they deserved. (Laughter.)

The President said he was willing to put the matter before the Council.

Professor Armstrong explained that he had no wish to have the general question settled then, but he would like to hear Professor Perkin's paper.

The Junior Secretary (Dr. Alexander Scott) then read the abstract of the paper, and when this was done the President remarked that owing to the absence of the author the paper could not be discussed.

Professor Armstrong, however, got up, and was proceeding to remark on the nomenclature adopted by the author, when the President said, "Pardon me, Professor Armstrong, but I do not think we can properly discuss this paper now."

Professor Armstrong immediately left the meeting amidst dead silence.

The rest of the evening was devoted to consideration of

POTTERY-GLAZES

upon which Professor T. E. Thorpe and Mr. C. Simmonds communicated a paper detailing the researches they had made on behalf of the Government to determine the composition of glazes that are soluble or very sparingly soluble in weak solutions of hydrochloric acid. In the investigation they employed 0.25 per cent. solution of the acid, and they found, generally, that the quantity of

litharge in glaze or frit may go up as much as 50 per cent. without the solubility being sensibly increased. Also that the amount of alkalis in the glazes may vary considerably without affecting the solubility. The glazes that are most soluble contain metasilicic acid, $\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{SiO}_2$, while the insoluble are represented by the formulae $2\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot 0.3\text{SiO}_2$ and $\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot 2\text{SiO}_2$.

A lengthy discussion followed, the speakers being Mr. F. J. Lloyd, Professor Tilden, Professor Clowes, Mr. Elworthy, and Professor Carmody (Trinidad).

There was a ballot for the election of Fellows, and amongst those elected were Messrs. Hugh E. Ellis, pharmaceutical chemist, Llanfair (formerly pharmacy teacher, Gordon's College, Aberdeen), and William Shepperson.

Society of Chemical Industry.

LONDON SECTION.

MR. OTTO HEHNER presided over a large meeting at the Chemical Society's rooms, Burlington House, on Monday evening, May 6. It was a leather and gas audience chiefly, for the papers on the programme interested these industries especially. In the first of them Dr. Mollwo Perkin told of a second group difficulty there is in the

SEPARATION OF ARSENIC, ANTIMONY, AND TIN.

Ammonium sulphide and caustic alkalis are recommended for this separation; but Dr. Perkin finds that with the alkalis abnormal results are obtained because stannous sulphide does not always dissolve as the text-books say with formation of sodium thiosulphate and stannate. He had made experiments to determine the cause of this, and found that the state of aggregation of the stannous-sulphide precipitate has something to do with it, and that metallic tin is set free during the formation of stannate. The same thing happens when stannous hydrate is boiled with caustic potash. Dr. Perkin's conclusion was that students should be recommended to use yellow-ammonium sulphide for treating the As, Sb, and Sn mixture, for although some sulphur is ultimately precipitated, it is not so great an objection as the loss of the tin which otherwise goes along with the bismuth.

In a brief discussion that followed Mr. Hooper of the Government Laboratories strongly recommended Clark's process of separating the three metals. This depends upon the use of sodium-sulphide solution in which the arsenic, antimony, and tin precipitate is dissolved, then boiled in a flask with ferric chloride, whereupon the arsenic is distilled. The residue in the flask is then treated with oxalic acid in excess and sulphuretted hydrogen, whereby antimony is precipitated, and after this the mother liquor is treated with permanganate for the separation of the tin. The Chairman said that is a very good process for quantitative work, but it is too fine for the qualitative needs of students.

THE TANNING PAPER

was then taken, Dr. Gordon Parker giving the results of the investigation which had been proceeding for three years under his supervision by Messrs. John Youl and R. W. Griffith, on "The Relative Leather-forming Value of the Different Tanning-materials, and their Speed of Tanning." The Leather-sellers' Company and several of the leading tanners in London had subsidised the research. We cannot do more than call the attention of those interested in the supply and use of tanning-materials to this important research. The first thing done was to determine the tannin value of various agents by the hide-powder method and the Kjeldahl process, also by observing the actual increase in weight of the hide during the tanning. The results showed that the hide-powder process is fairly accurate, but on the whole the Kjeldahl method is as simple and certainly more accurate. In the process of tanning, glucosides, acids, and other substances of the tanning-liquors play an important part by opening up the pores of the skins and allowing free passage to the tanning-material. In reference to this the investigators had to consider the changes that occur in the tanning-liquors, and they found, contrary to experience, that the percentage of tannin decreases owing to the formation of

elaigic acid, technically called "bloom" by tanners, and which gives solidity to leather. Tanners have considered this bloom to be formed at the expense of the non-soluble matter in the liquors. By means of a series of tables the authors showed the results they had obtained by tanning with the principal materials—namely, oak-bark, oak-wood, valonia, mimosa, canaigre, chestnut, quebracho, and myrobalans—the tables showing the rates at which the tannin from each was absorbed, the total weights absorbed at various periods up to about five months, the weight of leather produced, the strength of the leather, and the water-absorbing power. In regard to the last point it was noted that, while a leather tanned with oak-bark allowed water to penetrate in a few minutes, it took the water nine and a half hours to penetrate canaigre-tanned leather. In regard to strength it was found that the chestnut extract gave the strongest leather.

The discussion on the paper was opened by Professor Henry R. Proctor, of Yorkshire College.

MANCHESTER SECTION.

THE closing meeting of the session was held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on May 3, Dr. Grossmann in the chair. There was a large attendance, which included Mr. Joseph Swan, F.R.S., the President of the Society.

Mr. J. B. Harrison, Government analyst and geologist, read a paper on "The Resources of British Guiana," compiled from his own observations and experiences in that colony; after which, Mr. T. G. A. Rhodin, F.I.C., read a paper on "A Process for the Production of Soluble Potash Salts and other Products from Potassium Felspar."

Votes of thanks were accorded to the readers of the papers by acclamation.

THE ANNUAL SUPPER FOLLOWED.

After the toast of "The King,"

The Chairman proposed "The health of Mr. Swan" (the President). The best way to become acquainted with the Sections of the Society was to visit them. Their President had greatly distinguished himself in technology. By the Swan-Edison lamp alone his name would be handed down to posterity, but he had touched nothing in technology and electricity that he had not adorned. To his invention they owed the gelatin dry-plates, which had greatly developed photography. Centuries ago such a man would have been in danger of being burnt at the stake as a wizard.

Mr. Swan, in reply, said he must express his surprise at seeing so large a Section at Manchester. It exceeded his expectations. Being in Manchester, his mind was concerned with chemistry and chemical industry. He naturally thought of the men who had advanced chemistry and who were no longer with them. These included the illustrious Dalton, Joule, and John Day—the first two in chemical science and the last in chemical industry. Chemical industry and chemical science were very distinct from each other, and chemical industry occupied this ambiguous position—that whereas chemical science was ready to give everything it could freely in aid of chemical industry, chemical industry was not equally magnanimous or benevolent in regard to science, though it did sometimes—not infrequently—make valuable contributions to chemical science. By pursuing chemical science in a purely scientific spirit, there was no hesitation or reticence as to the making known of discoveries; but when they came to chemical industry there was not quite the same freedom of communication. The Society of Chemical Industry did what it could, and he thought it did it very well, to mediate somewhat between the two conflicting elements that he had pointed out. In chemical industry individual interests came into play which sometimes prevented that free interchange of ideas which might otherwise exist. Chemical industry was essentially a thing of change, and the existence of their Society was an acknowledgment of the fact. He had only recently been to the banks of the Tyne, and there the extent to which change could go was brought before his mind in a somewhat melancholy way. Thirty years ago the Tyneside was covered with alkali-works in active operation. There were at least twenty such works. Now, the number had been reduced to two or three. That was a very melan-

choly thing to be seen by a Tyneside man, who naturally desired to see industry prosperous there. Although there had been changes in Lancashire and Cheshire in regard to alkali-works, they had not disappeared to the extent he had seen on the Tyneside. Changes were in progress. New processes had taken the place of the old, but there had not been the same cessation of chemical industry in Lancashire and Cheshire as on the Tyne. He did not know how to account for it, but the men of Lancashire and Cheshire seemed to have kept more to the front in chemical advancement than had the chemists of the Tyneside. In his speech Dr. Grossmann had attributed to him the discovery of the gelatin dry-plate. He (Mr. Swan) had not discovered it directly. It was discovered before he took it up, but what he did discover was the application of heat to develop the sensitiveness of the emulsion, and it had been used ever since. He was not unwilling to have the opportunity to make that statement.

Other toasts followed, and the proceedings then terminated.

College Notes.

THE WESTMINSTER COLLEGE DINNER at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday next, May 14, promises, we understand, to be one of the most successful that Mr. G. S. V. Wills has ever had.

THE CENTRAL SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.—Last week the students of this school visited the chemical and gas works of the Gas Light and Coke Company at Beckton. They followed the coal from the quay-side through the whole process of manufacture of coal-gas. The waste products at the gasworks amount to millions of gallons per week, and are treated at the separate works of the company adjoining. There was seen the processes of distillation of tar, and the purification of benzene, naphthalene, carbolic acid, and anthracene, and the manufacture of ammonia and ammonium salts, as well as other subsidiary processes.

POSTAL STUDY.—We hear that Mr. Barrie, of the West of Scotland College of Pharmacy, is making satisfactory progress with the course of postal instruction for the qualifying examination which he has recently started, and which he adapts to each student's needs. Last week the students of the College, accompanied by the principal, went on a botanical ramble to the country south of Glasgow. A large number of interesting specimens were found. On Victoria-day, May 23, a ramble to Cammyle and Clyde Valley will be conducted by Mr. Barrie, to which students and others botanically inclined are cordially invited.

LEEDS COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—The *Journal* of this College sustains its interest well. The last issue begins with an editorial on ambition, and is followed by an account of passing "The Minor in Six Months," which says the thirty years' man's article in the *C. & D.* "must have a depressing effect on those who contemplate entering, but it was entirely his own fault, as may be inferred by carefully reading the article." After this are notes on oxidising agents, the early history of chemistry, botany for May, and other good reading for the "Altior" students. We observe that Dr. Dobbin's notes on the fifth group (*C. & D.*, April 27, page 672), are quoted, also that the College's annual trip to Windermere will take place on the Monday in Whitsun week, when the subject for special study will be "Cryptogamia." Train leaves Leeds about 4.20 A.M. Any old student who intends being present should give notice at once in order that arrangements may be made.

THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—On Friday, May 3 the students of this school visited the works of Messrs. Davy, Hill & Son, Yates & Hicks. The party was received by Mr. A. C. Hill, at whose suggestion the students were divided into two sections, one under his own guidance, and the other under Mr. Collins. In the pharmaceutical laboratory they saw extracts of opium, belladonna, rhatany, and cascara sagrada, in process of manufacture, as well as the distillation of spirit of sal volatile and the recovery of cinnamic acid from "spent" balsam after making syrup of tolu. In the analytical laboratory the assays of opium, belladonna, nux vomica, were seen under way, whilst the Hehner improved apparatus for the detection of arsenic proved most interesting. The chemical laboratory was also visited, and the students saw for the first time how sodium iodide is made from iron iodide and sodium carbonate, and the crystallisation of a batch of ammonio-copper sulphate interested the students. The pill-making and other departments were visited, and before the party left they saw several tons of medicaments ready for exportation for South African Army purposes, each package bearing a red cross upon a yellow base.

Business Novelties.

COMPOUND GLYCERO-PHOSPHATES

in palatinoids is Messrs. Oppenheimer, Son & Co.'s latest achievement. Bardet's formula is used, and each palatinoid contains equivalent to 5 gr. of the glycerophosphates of lime, soda, potash, manganese, and iron with strychnine gr. $\frac{1}{250}$. We notice that when one is placed in water it begins to expand, so that in a few seconds the contents are discharged as a fine powder, hence there can be no question of the medicine not acting quickly. The palatinoids are put up in bottles for dispensing.

TANNOFORM.

At this season of the year chemists usually have queries in regard to the treatment of diarrhoea in calves. It is, therefore, appropriate to call attention to a pamphlet on tannoform, which has just been published by E. Merck, of Darmstadt, and of which copies can be obtained from the London office, 16 Jewry Street, E.C. Tannoform is a condensation product of tannic acid and formic aldehyde, and possesses the astringency of the former and the antisepticity of the latter. It is non-poisonous, and is tolerated in large doses. Some remarkable cures of infectious diarrhoeas in calves have been reported.

FAIRCHILD PEPSIN.

MR. A. E. HOLDEN, the English representative of Messrs. Fairchild Brothers & Foster, New York, informs us that two new sizes of his firm's high-class pepsin are now placed on the English market through Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. These are $\frac{1}{4}$ -oz. and 1-oz. bottles, the former being 12s. per dozen, and the latter 30s. There are also 4-oz., 8-oz., and 1-lb. bottles. The smallest bottles are especially suitable for retailing, and the others for dispensing purposes—the 1-lb. size costs 27s. 6d. The pepsin is supplied in micaceous and almost colourless scales, and in fine powder, the latter, owing to its permanent character, being specially suitable for folded powders. Both pepsins are soluble in water, forming a faintly opalescent solution, which is rendered perfectly clear by a trace of hydrochloric acid. A fresh test of the pepsin has assured us that it maintains its high proteolytic power.

EIGON

may be regarded as the generic name of a series of albumen compounds which are prepared in the Dieterich laboratories, Helfenberg, and put on the English market by Messrs. Buchner, Schacht & Co., 55 Fore Street, E.C. Iodo (α) eigon is an iodised albumen containing 20 per cent. of iodine. It is an impalpable powder, of the colour of pulv. rhei co., and insoluble in water. It has similar properties as an antiseptic and deodorant to iodoform, and, being odourless, is preferred by many surgeons to the malodorous CHI₃. It is used alone as a dusting-powder, or combined with starch, and also as an ointment. A similar but soluble preparation is pepto-iodo (β) eigon, which contains 15 per cent. of iodine, and is used internally in place of alkaline iodides, as it is better tolerated by the system. Pepto-brom eigon is a corresponding preparation containing 11 per cent. of bromine. For administration, \mathfrak{zj} . of either of these is triturated with glycerin $\mathfrak{z}iij$., and hot distilled water added to make a 4-oz. mixture, the dose of which is a tablespoonful.

NEW SUNDRIES.

MESSRS. S. MAW, SON & SONS, Aldersgate Street, E.C., have several new things which retailers will be pleased to hear of. The first that we may mention is a series of new waterproof bathing-caps and sponge-bags. The material of which these are made is solid and flexible indiarubber in thin

sheets, and of marbled appearance. It seems to be cut from a solid block of rubber, which has been coloured throughout like fine black and red marble, but it is multi-coloured. The caps and bags are well made, and the effect of colour and shape is so pretty, that there will be a big run upon them during the bathing-season. These articles should be ordered as "the Marbled." Another pretty thing that was brought under our notice is the embossed white metal, used for backing hair and other brushes. The metal closely resembles silver, but the surface remains permanently bright and free from oxidation. This non-tarnishable characteristic, combined with the comparative cheapness of the metal, is the feature that appeals to buyers. A miniature drinking-cup of the same material, but gilt inside and having a tiny handle that hinges into the interior, is well worth stocking. Messrs. Maw also have a new series of perfume-sprays of all colours, and with ribbed rings round the circumference. A bath-room tidy made of enamelled metal, for holding soap, brushes, and sponge, is going exceedingly well, and can be obtained at various prices, and in several styles of material. The tidy retails about 3s. upwards, and although the initial outlay to the householder is above the average for these things, the stability of the article justifies it. In brushes we hear that the hygienic tooth-brushes and nail-brushes are going exceedingly well, while celluloid tooth-brushes in amber, tortoiseshell, and other styles, sell at 4s. 6d. per dozen, and are still very popular. The department of the firm which has charge of tooth-powders, has solved the problem of making a carbolic-powder with chalk, that is permanent even in the air, and which retains its carbolic efficacy. The special feature of the tooth-powder is its snowy whiteness. It is put up in handsome boxes to retail at 6d.

NOTES.

A "TABLOID" tonic for diabetic people has been produced by Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. Each dose contains a grain of codeine phosphate and $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. of extract of nuxvomica.

A NEAT thing in perfume-labels comes to us from Messrs. Bourne, Johnson & Latimer. It is an actual photograph of some local spot, with the bouquet name and the maker's name in white lettering on the dense black of the silver print.

THE "May-blossom" perfume just introduced by Messrs. Spurway & Cie., of Cannes, has an agreeable and lasting fragrance, which should commend it to customers in search of a new scent. The London depôt of the manufacturers is at 184 Shaftesbury Avenue, where samples may be obtained.

THE SPRING CATALOGUE issued by Spiritine (Limited), 5 Carteret Street, Westminster, illustrates the adaptations to which their solidified spirit may be put. The catalogue demonstrates that the adjuncts with which Spiritine may be associated for heating-purposes are not only useful, but artistic.

MESSRS. SOUTHALL BROTHERS & BARCLAY (LIMITED), of Birmingham, have issued a new list of counter-specialties, in which are included all the latest novelties for summer trade. Messrs. Southall will send a case containing over 400 dummies for buyers' inspection to anyone desiring it, so that selection may be made, as in the case of travellers' samples.

THE NEWEST REMEDY is, we should think, di-iodo-cocaine hydriodide, or cocaine periodide, introduced commercially by Mr. Wm. Martindale, 10 New Cavendish Street, W. It is the product of a research by Dr. Harrison Martindale, and has also been described by Prof. Collie and Mr. Garsted to the Chemical Society. It is more stable than other alkaloidal periodides, for a specimen made five weeks ago still contains 55 per cent. of iodine, the theoretical amount being 55.62 per cent. It occurs in crystals resembling potassium permanganate.

Westminster Wisdom.

EARLY-CLOSING COMMITTEE.

A few pharmacists attended the meeting of the House of Lords Committee last Friday (May 3), in the expectation that pharmaceutical evidence would be heard then, but Mr. Charles B. Allen, pharmaceutical chemist, of High Road, Kilburn, was not called until Monday, when, replying to Lord Avebury, he said he was the Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society, and was there to present a motion on behalf of that Society to the Committee. The Society had considered the question and passed a resolution which agreed with the principle of Lord Avebury's Bill, but beyond saying that he could not speak for the Society. He was perfectly prepared to answer any questions which might be put to him as a chemist, and as one who had had considerable experience of the trade.

You think that the hours of labour might be shortened with advantage?—Undoubtedly.

Do you think there would be any inconvenience to the public?—Not the slightest.

Have you any hopes of getting shorter hours by voluntary action?—None whatever.

By the Bishop of Winchester: The hours were always long in chemists' and druggists' shops, and with regard to a number of men who were engaged in shops by themselves, it practically amounts to life-service. He was quite sure that in the trade he represented there were many men who never left their business-premises from one week's end to another. They might, perhaps, get an hour or two off on Sundays, but that was all.

I suppose that is principally owing to emergency demands which would not apply in other trades?—No; I refer to the large number of men who are working single-handed in small shops. People expect the chemist's shop to be always open.

Why do you think customers expect shops to be open so late?—The general public has no feeling whatever.

Why do the chemists' shops keep open so late—is it because of fear of competition?—That is so, for if one place is not open another is. A man who has been in business, say, for twenty years and is beginning to feel the stress of age wishes to close earlier, but a younger man may come and set up close to him, and in the ordinary course of business he cannot afford to despise the competition.

How far would this Bill be likely to interfere with the trade of the chemist or druggist by preventing him selling in emergency cases?—There is an exempting clause which covers the business of the chemist, and under it he will be able to sell anything and everything which can be demanded by the public.

By the Earl of Romney: He was convinced that in the large majority of instances the late shopping was not a matter of emergency or necessity—it was simply a matter of habit.

The Earl of Hardwicke: I suppose as regards medicines required suddenly, people sometimes have to get them at 1 o'clock in the morning?—Oh, yes; I was rung up myself at 5 o'clock this morning, but that is outside the category of ordinary trade, and is easily provided for. In that respect we are in exactly the same position as professional men.

The Chairman: The Pharmaceutical Society, as representing the chemists of the country, is satisfied with the Bill?—Yes.

Other witnesses were examined, but not with reference to the drug-trade.

LONDON DOCKS.

The Royal Commission on the Port of London again met on Monday, when the whole sitting was taken up by the evidence of Mr. C. J. C. Scott, Chairman of the Docks Joint Committee. Mr. Scott repudiated generally the statement that London is the dearest port in the world, and, on the contrary, affirmed that London is the cheapest, for in no other can goods be landed and sent away without anything at all being taken by way of dues. He opposed the formation of a trust on the lines suggested by the County Council, as such a body would not have the necessary knowledge to

conduct the difficult and intricate business of the docks. The charge they propose for barges is 3d. per ton, with a maximum of 4d. At present barges are exempt from payments of any kind, although they have the full use of the docks. If the dock companies are given power to levy dues on goods which now escape, as proposed in their new Lighterage Bill, they hoped to secure a further income of 177,833l. The Joint Committee would then be able to facilitate trade by providing more labour-saving appliances and increasing accommodation generally. Wharfingers and lightermen, he said, treat dock companies' property as their own, and witness was of opinion that the time has come when the privileges they enjoy should be withdrawn. The inquiry was again adjourned.

ALKALI-WORKS.

A Bill entitled the "Alkali, &c., Works Regulation Bill" stands for second reading in the House of Lords on May 10.

The Bill repeals provisions in existing Acts respecting the gases emanating from sulphuric-acid and muriatic-acid works, and limits total acid ity to not more than 4 gr. SO₃ per cubic foot. It requires the owners of alkali-works to provide the best means of condensing acid gases, and gives the chief inspector powers in respect to other gases than sulphuric anhydride, which may escape from sulphuric-acid works. The Bill, if passed, will come into force on January 1, 1902. It is introduced by Lord Kenyon, as a Government measure.

Trade-Marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 1s., obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," April 17, 1901.)

"EDGAR'S LOTION," and device and wording; for medicine. By Edgar's Croup Lotion (Limited), Westfield House, Dartford, Kent. 235,283.

"THE CURE ALTERN" (no claim for "Alt"); for neuralgia, rheumatism, and gout, &c., remedy. By J. Alton, 12 Mac-knolles Street, Nelson, Lancs. 235,619.

"HALL'S TONIC," and signature; for indigestion-remedy. By James Hall & Co., Granville House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C. 236,752.

"RESALIS"; for skin-remedies. By G. E. Bond, Stalham, Norfolk. 236,068.

"SARSSEX"; for chemical substance. By D. Danix, 45 Dun-raven Street, Tonypandy, Glamorgan. 236,446.

"SPARKLOIDS" (no claim for "Sparkle"); for mineral and aerated waters. By Aerators (Limited), 56 Broad Street Avenue, E.C. 236,814.

"THE CAMBRUNNEN," and device; for mineral and aerated waters. By the Cambrunnen Table Water Company, 104 Great Portland Street, W. 235,692.

"FOSO SOAP," and device; for toilet-soap. By the Altenheim Medical Dispensary, 552 Main Street, Cincinnati, U.S.A. 232,967.

"FOAMLETS" (no claim for "Foam"); for perfumery and toilet articles. By Vinola Company (Limited), Malden Crescent, London, N.W. 236,699.

"LEMZOIN"; for perfumery. By the Crown Perfumery Company, 112 and 113 Fore Street, London, E.C. 236,937.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," April 24, 1901.)

"KAPUTINE" (no claim for "Caput"); for chemical substances. By the General Kaputine Syndicate (Limited), 51 Lidget Street, Lindley, Huddersfield. 236,398.

"WYLIE'S THREE POPLAR BRAND" and device of trees; for chemical substances. By Wylie & Co., 6 Dowgate Hill, E.C. 236,166.

"GLYCO-THYMOLINE" (no claim for "Glyco" and "Thymol"); for chemical substances. By the Kress & Owen Company, 221 Fulton Street, New York. 236,211.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

LOCAL MEETING AT MANCHESTER.

A **LARGELY-ATTENDED** meeting of chemists and druggists of Manchester and district was held in the Memorial Hall, Albert Square, on May 7, to consider the draft Pharmacy Bill. In the absence of Mr. G. S. Woolley, the President of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Society, the chair was occupied by Mr. Harry Kemp. There were present also Messrs. Rymer Young, John Taylor, R. Bremridge, Harrison, J. C. Kidd, and J. Woodruff Walton.

Mr. BREMRIDGE said his hands had issued the circulars calling the meeting. He was glad to see so many gentlemen present. The business was to discuss the

DRAFT PHARMACY BILL

and matters of interest to the pharmaceutical calling. The Bill was of the utmost importance.

Mr. KIDD, Secretary of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Society, said many letters had been received from pharmacists unable to attend the meeting. Two only would be read, these being typical of the rest. One from Mr. Wright (Buxton) hoped the voting for the Bill would be favourable. Mr. Wild (Macclesfield) wrote that he was entirely in sympathy with the Bill, and wished it every success.

Mr. HARRISON (Sunderland) said it was very gratifying to see so large a meeting. It was of the greatest importance that as chemists they should be organised. At the present time pharmacists were in the position of receiving shafts from professional men above them, and kicks from people below. They should be organised to be able to meet attacks, whether from above or below. They ought to be able to organise the whole forces of pharmacy, so that when the time of difficulty, emergency, or doubt came they might be able to make their influence felt and respected. Last year their calling was seriously affected by a Bill on its way through the House of Commons. They then put their machinery in motion, and there was a rising among pharmacists from Land's End to John o'Groats. It was seen they were in earnest in the matter, and ready to do their duty. The pressure they brought to bear on the House of Commons was such that the obnoxious clause in the Bill to which he alluded was removed. They wanted some authority to which they could look with confidence when any crisis affected their business; and from what he saw of the meeting before him, and in Leeds and Newcastle, confirmed him in the belief that their organisation was going to be a success. Referring to the Act of 1868, he said they would remember the hopes it gave them of the future; and, on the whole, he ventured to think that it had been a great benefit to the people of this country. That was the idea of Parliament in passing the Act, and they must keep that fact in mind. During the last quarter of a century there had been enormous developments in collectivism in trade. If things went on in these lines there was a prospect of individualism being swamped. When the Limited Liability Companies Act came into force, it was recognised by some that pharmacy, being a lucrative business to follow, could be carried on by companies without let or hindrance as to the qualifications of its directors. A man without title or qualification could form a company and carry on a business which alone he was not entitled to do. Such a position was intolerable to the qualified registered chemist. The evil had become greatly enlarged. They might submit to properly-organised limited companies, but with one-man companies things were becoming quite intolerable. Unless some alteration could be made they were in danger of seeing the Pharmacy Act set aside. They were in danger of their business being taken from competent men and placed in the hands of incompetent men. There were two remedies that might be applied—(1) repression; (2) regulation. The day for repression had gone. Parliament would not do it. Only one means was left—viz., regulation to bring these traders within the purview of the Pharmacy Act. After reciting the scope of the Act he showed how the Companies Act favoured disregard of the essential feature of the Pharmacy Act. Shareholders in

limited companies could dispense with annual meetings, balance-sheets, and directors altogether. What the draft Pharmacy Bill proposed was that, whether with one director or more than one, all should be qualified if the company was to carry on the business of chemists and druggists. If that were secured they would have safeguarded their interests and protected the public. He maintained that the public demanded such a provision. They could not allow one man to qualify another, nor the employé to qualify his employer. The time was ripe for legislation on these lines. Two or three years ago they tried and failed. The question of company-trading they left untouched, and this was pointed out by the Lord Chancellor, who had shown them what they could do by adding to the Companies Bill a clause providing that every pharmacy should have in it a qualified assistant. Pharmacists, however, did not think that quite sufficient—that a qualified assistant should qualify a whole board of dealers. Coming up again they opposed it. The Pharmaceutical Council would look more after their interests than the Privy Council. In the draft Bill he believed they had adopted a reasonable course which would appeal to reasonable men. To be reasonable they must also set their own houses in order. If not they would get short shrift in Parliament. Individual pharmacists with more than one shop must have a qualified assistant in each. To get their Bill passed they must have enthusiasm. Parliamentary machinery ran very slowly. They must be pushing and energetic, and more so than ever before. Pharmacists were educated men. They would be able to master the details of the Bill, and bring pressure to bear upon members of Parliament, and then the Bill would find its way into the Statute Book of the realm for the benefit of pharmacists, and for the welfare of the masses of the people of the country who are interested in the question. (Applause.)

Mr. RYMER YOUNG said the Bill had not yet been brought before the House of Commons, and it was a fact that the Bill did not interest the Government as it did themselves. (Laughter.) The great majority of chemists had expressed themselves in favour of the Bill. It seemed to him that nobody really objected to it, not even the company-director. If the Bill passed, qualified directors would be difficult to get, and chemists who wanted cheap assistants would be less likely, with the curriculum to pass, to get them. There was no very serious fault to be found with the Bill, and if it were not recorded in Parliament it would be in the history of the country. Their calling could be strengthened and perfected by organisation, which must necessarily precede success in Bill-promoting. By associating more together their eyes were opened, their narrow-mindedness widened, and with unity and determination anything and everything became possible. The election for the members of the Council was near at hand. The voting-papers should be filled up. Let them vote for the men they liked and against those they disliked, so that it could be seen whose views they appreciated. They were running two Lancashire candidates. They had been successful in the past. He should vote for Mr. Kemp and the other man. (Laughter.) A vote of 90 per cent. of the electorate would show what they wanted.

Mr. JOHN TAYLOR (Bolton) moved—

That, in the opinion of this meeting, the draft Pharmacy Bill is worthy of support, and the members hereof pledge themselves to use their utmost endeavours to ensure its enactment.

The Bill, he said, confirmed one of two principles. There had not been a disposition to go into details. The Bill laid down the principle that for every open shop there must be a properly qualified man. It was the principle of one man, one shop—not that one man is to have only one shop, but that one qualified man shall take the full responsibility of the business, and conform to pharmaceutical law. The old idea was that there should be one man, who should be the owner as well. That was, perhaps, a desideratum, but it was a long way in the future. The principle applied to the one qualified man, and increased his responsibility morally as well as financially. The new Bill transferred the responsibility from the man to the master. Hitherto the action of the Pharmaceutical Council in the case of a difficulty with an unqualified assistant often did no more than remove him to make room for another unqualified man. The new principle might not be a very desirable thing to some pharmacists with more shops than one, but they must set their own houses in order. Then the Bill would put limited com-

panies on a level with themselves as individual chemists. He had never felt himself that they could shut up the companies. He did not think Parliament would do it, but he had often thought of dealing with them and bringing them within the law. He had, however, accepted the Bill with some reluctance. Repression, as had been said, was now impossible, but in the Bill which had been drafted he believed the public would back them up. The curriculum clause was called the enabling clause of the Bill. If it became law to-morrow, the Pharmaceutical Society could not issue a curriculum without the consent of the members. It was the clause, in his opinion, most likely to pass.

Mr. HUMPHREYS (Northwich) seconded the motion, and said it was worthy of their support. From the meetings already held in various parts of the country the chemists of the country seemed to be strongly in favour of it. He was not so sure, however, as to the latter clause of the resolution. Clause 7 of the Bill, he thought, should be more definite. It was not sufficiently clear at present.

The CHAIRMAN said what was unlawful for an individual to do would be unlawful for a company to do.

A gentleman in the body of the meeting said the Bill did not go far enough. There should be qualified dispensers in workhouses, hospitals, the army and navy, public dispensaries, and other kindred institutions, and something ought to be done to secure better treatment of chemists by city and county coroners.

Mr. W. LANE asked if the words "open shop" covered the dispensing departments of household stores.

The CHAIRMAN: Certainly.

Mr. J. E. LORD (Rawtenstall) said he had given the Bill careful consideration, and desired to see all that was good in it, but he confessed he regarded it with coldness and indifference. They had been called together that day not to amend the Bill but to support it, and to that extent the meeting was more or less a farce. He should not oppose the Bill, but he had not been able to get up any enthusiasm on its behalf. It had so far, in the Press and in letters, been more or less damned with faint praise. He considered it a titles Bill, and little else. (Laughter.) He considered that in trying to secure that all directors of limited companies should be qualified men they were trying to secure by a flank movement what they did not do by a frontal attack, and that Parliament would not sanction it. It would put a stop to company trading. The curriculum clause he regarded with misgiving.

A gentleman asked if the Bill included Wales, and was answered in the affirmative.

Mr. HARRISON replied to questions, and the observations which had been made by Mr. Lord. The clauses of the Bill had been drafted by a barrister; they had not been able to get chemists exempted from serving on juries, but in any future Bill dealing with that question they would try and secure exemption. They must not be expected to get too much in the Bill, or it would fail. They must get what was most likely to be granted, and travel on the route which presented the fewest obstacles to a successful issue. They had a committee taking evidence on the question of competent dispensing in the Army, Navy, and public institutions, and he believed the Government would take up the matter before long. Title was a valuable asset, and was worth defending. In time, he thought, there would not be much difference between Mr. Lord and the promoters of the Bill. (Laughter.) The clause with regard to qualified directors was not a flank movement but a direct attack. If it was necessary for the individual chemist to be qualified, it was necessary for a director to be equally qualified.

Mr. LORD: "And so say all of us." (Great laughter.)

Mr. HARRISON: With regard to the curriculum, they would not draw the cords too tightly, and anybody would have the right to appeal to the Privy Council on that subject. In reply to a question, Mr. Harrison said the widows' clause was not affected by the Bill.

The resolution was carried, and votes of thanks ended the meeting, which had lasted over two hours.

The Royal Academy.

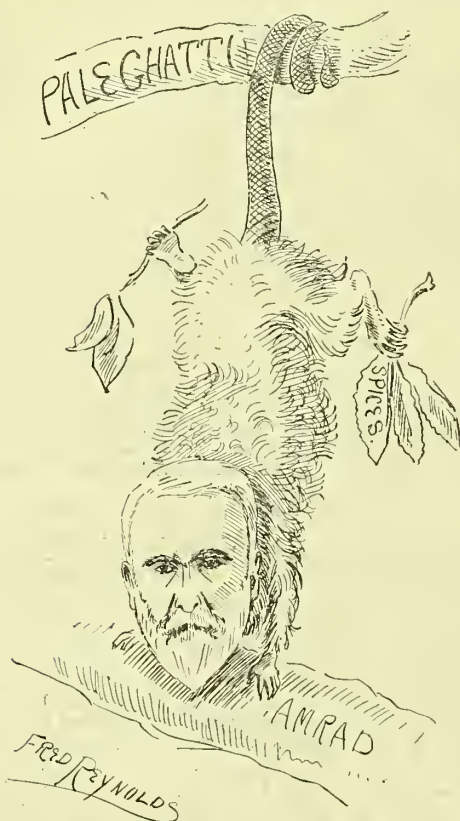
THE Art of Pharmacy is seldom absolutely excluded from the rooms of the Academy of Arts at Burlington House, and this year pharmaceutical visitors will find a few things to interest them. Taking the turning to the right after entering, and thus doing the Academy backwards (a plan which has advantages), one soon comes to an excellent portrait bronze of Mr. William Martindale, which might be called "A Pharmacist, by a Pharmacist," because it was moulded by Mr. F. Mowbray Taubman, a Minor man, and son of Mr. Robert Taubman, of Morsons. Some years ago Mr. Mowbray Taubman deserted the plastic pill-mass for the equally plastic clay, and with such success that already one public statue in London has come from his studio. In Mr. Martindale he had a familiar subject, and he has not missed any of the facial characteristics, although we think he has somewhat accentuated the bilobed appearance of the point of the nose. The work shows Mr. Martindale in everyday costume, the bust being cut square a little below the shoulders. It is moulded in green bronze. In the same room there is a marble bust by Mr. Thomas Brock, R.A., of the late Mr. Henry Lee, F.R.C.S., which is to be placed in the Royal College of Surgeons; and there is a quaint medallion in copper of Sir John Evans, K.C.B., F.R.S., ex-President of the Society of Chemical Industry. It is by Mr. Frank Bowcher, and has a numismatic appearance quite in sympathy with the subject.

Turning to the pictures, the first familiar face that we find on the walls is that of Sir John Burdon Sanderson, the eminent physiologist, painted by Mr. Charles W. Furse, and placed rather high in Room 5. It does not flatter Sir John, his ascetic appearance being faithfully reproduced, but the artist has been particularly successful in catching the flesh-colour and the fine eyes of the professor. In Room 7 there is a presentation-portrait of Dr. P. H. Pye-Smith, by Mr. Herbert J. Draper, which will be better when the flesh-tint has toned down somewhat. There are several portraits in Room 8 of gentlemen connected with analytical or technical chemistry. The first is Mr. Bertram Blount, F.I.C., F.C.S., by Miss Florence White. Although skied, the position is not unfavourable to the portrait, which is quite successful. Below it on the line is an excellent likeness of Sir Frederick Abel, Bart., painted by Mr. Frank Bramley, A.R.A., who has caught the eminent chemist in the position which he is often seen in when he presides at a meeting, leaning slightly to the right of the Chippendale armchair in which he sits. The face is as good as the pose, the complexion being well rendered. Not so successful is the portrait of Sir Charles Tennant, Bart., by Mr. J. S. Sargent, R.A., because the artist in this case has treated the whiskers with scant courtesy, so that in no matter what position the picture is viewed slabs of iron-grey colour are seen like cross-patch. The features are exquisitely done. Not far from this portrait is one of Mr. J. F. L. Brunner, by Mr. Arthur Hacker, A.R.A., which, if a trifle photographic in portrayal, is wonderfully lifelike, while the picture is a good study in colour, the prevailing tone a peculiar shade of blue. In this room also will be found a portrait of the Hon. Mr. Justice Bruce, who used to be called the "Member for Bloomsbury." It is by Mr. Rudolf Lehmann, and rather flatters the judge. Finally, in Room 11, is a portrait of Alderman and Sheriff Vaughan Morgan, Treasurer of Christ's Hospital, which Mr. Arthur Hacker has painted on behalf of the subscribers, who are presenting it to the ancient school. The Alderman is portrayed in his civic robes of bright scarlet, and he sits in the dark-brown oak chair of Christ's Hospital Courtroom. This, with the mace and wainscot, makes an excellent background. Here again we have a combination of good portraiture with vivid colouring, which has a pleasing effect. There is only one other portrait of the same character in the Academy—namely, that by Mr. von Herkomer of Mr. McGrady, Provost of Dundee. In this the dress-colours are practically the same, although more gorgeous, than in Mr. Hacker's subject; but Mr. Hacker has succeeded where Mr. von Herkomer has failed—viz., in giving the natural and lifelike colour of the face to his subject in spite of the strong contrast that the red robes supply.

It is worthy of note that there is not a single doctor on the walls wearing a fur-lined coat, nor is there an anatomical subject.

"THE 'ART OF DISPENSING' is a book that I have always considered valuable at the dispensing counter. The present (sixth) edition appears unusually complete."—Professor CHAS. CASPARI, Jr., Baltimore, Md.

Pharmaceutical Fauna.



Opossum Daltoni.

This is a great gum-merchant in Mincing Lane. Is a sure if sometimes slow seller of all kinds of druggery and spicery, and the artist informs us that it cannot be baffled in its lawful endeavours by any exotic defences. The attitude in which it is here depicted is, to say the least of it, unusual, for there is none of the Lane fauna so certain in its foothold as *Opossum Daltoni*. When it forages it is generally accompanied by the jay-bird.

Scientific Progress.

Preparation of Terpeneol.—According to Genvresse, an economical method of preparing terpeneol is by mixing 100 parts of nitric acid, 100 of water, 400 of 95 per-cent. alcohol, and 400 of pinene, the whole being kept cool. After two months, at least two-thirds of the pinene is converted into terpeneol. The reaction-products are distilled with steam and fractionally distilled under reduced pressure. The resulting terpeneol is levorotatory, and has a very fine odour.

A Modification of Gutzelt's Test for Arsenic.—Mr. E. Doward has described to the Chemical Society an apparatus to free the gas from sulphuretted hydrogen, &c., by washing, also a series of experiments which show that lead-acetate solution only absorbs sulphuretted hydrogen, whilst a 15-per-cent. solution of cuprous chloride in hydrochloric acid absorbs sulphuretted hydrogen, phosphuretted hydrogen, and antimoniuiretted hydrogen, but has no effect on arseniuretted hydrogen.

Nerium Odorum.—Dr. R. C. L. Bose, in a note to the Chemical Society, details his investigations on the poisonous constituents of *Nerium odorum*, the sweet scented oleander. A third active constituent, besides the two already found in the root by Greenish, neriodorein and neriodorin, has been discovered,

and named *karabin*, from *karabi*, the Bengali name of the plant. The root gave the following percentages of the different extracts by Dragendorff's method: light petroleum extract, 2.88; ether extract, 1.38; absolute alcoholic extract, 3.40; aqueous extract, 5.81 per cent. The ether extract was found to contain the *karabin*, which on analysis gave numbers corresponding to the formula $C_{21}H_{19}O_8$. The author considers that neriodorin is a variety of saponin, and that neriodorin and karabin are not glucosides but possess the characters of a resin.

Algerian Oil of Rue.—Soden and Henle have examined a sample of Algerian oil of rue and give the following as its properties: Sp. gr. at 15°, 0.842; optical rotation -5° ; saponification number = 64. It differed from the ordinary oil of rue in that it did not solidify at even -15° . The principal constituent of the normal oil is methyl-nonyl-ketone, and a short time ago Thoms showed that a small quantity of methyl-heptyl-ketone was present. It appears that in the Algerian oil the principal constituent is the latter body, and that the former compound is only present to a small extent. The esters of the oil are to be the subject of further researches.

Cytisine.—Freund and Friedmann publish an exhaustive paper on their researches on the chemistry of cytisine in the *Berichte*, 1901, 615. They have come to the conclusion that the base contains one of its two nitrogen atoms in the form of an imido group. By the oxidation of the base by means of hydrogen peroxide, an oxyeytisin was obtained, which presented all the characters of a hydroxylamine base. Its formula is therefore to be written $C_{11}H_{13}ON.NOH$. It is a crystalline solid melting at 223° to 226° C., with decomposition. It yields well-defined crystalline salts with acids, and all the other usual alkaloidal derivatives, such as the platinum double compound, which commences to melt at 325° C. The remainder of the paper is devoted to a description of a number of nitro-derivatives of the alkaloid.

Cinchonidine.—In a thesis sustained by Dr. Galimard for his candidature for the doctorate of pharmacy in the University of Lyons, the author points out that hitherto the bromo compounds of cinchonidine have scarcely been studied. To prepare the bromo compounds of the base Galimard uses bromine dissolved in hydrobromic acid with or without the assistance of acetic acid. He has obtained two compounds containing two atoms of bromine, which he terms dibromocinchonidines, the alpha variety being an unstable, and the beta variety a stable, modification. The two atoms of bromine appear to be differently combined in the molecule, one being in the nucleus of the alkaloid, the other having apparently substituted the hydrogen of an hydroxyl group. The alpha variety, $C_{17}H_{20}BrN_2OBr$, decomposes before its melting point is reached, at 180° C. It is levorotatory, -105° . By dissolving the base in dilute nitric acid, after standing crystals of the nitrate of the beta variety are deposited. This body has the same formula as the alpha variety, and differs chiefly from the latter in being free from taste, whilst the alpha variety has the characteristic bitter taste of the cinchona alkaloids. It decomposes without melting at about 200° C., and appears to have both bromine atoms present in the alkaloidal nucleus; its formula may therefore be written $C_{17}H_{20}Br_2N_2O$.

The Bases of Mandragora root.—Thoms and Wentzel, in a former paper (*Berichte*, 31, 2031), showed that the base described under the name of mandragorine by Ahrens was impure hyoscyamine, and they state (*Berichte*, 1901, 1023) that they have now, by means of the crystalline form, melting-point, and composition of the gold double compound and of the base prepared by the decomposition of that compound, completely identified the base. They have also confirmed their observation by determining the optical rotation of the sulphate and by the conversion of the base into atropine. In their fresh investigations they have arrived at further interesting results. The root, cut in small pieces, was extracted with alcohol rendered acid with tartaric acid, and the extract evaporated *in vacuo* with gentle heat. The thick liquid so obtained was extracted with petroleum ether, and then with ether. In the latter solvent was found the body described by E. Schmidt as methyl-æsculetin (the chrysotropic acid of Kunz-Krause). The ethereal extract left on evaporation a brown syrupy residue. Taken up with water and acidified with hydrochloric acid, the syrup gave a turbid liquid, which became clear on shaking with chloroform. From the latter a small quantity of methyl æsculetin could be extracted by means of caustic-soda solution, whilst from the aqueous solution, freed from chloroform, a precipitate was obtained by treatment with auric chloride. The dried and purified gold double salt melted at 204° , and contained 30.72 per cent. of gold. A complete examination of this body proved conclusively that the compound was the gold double salt of hyoscyamine. By a further separation of the residual bases a small quantity of scopolamine agreeing in properties with that base, as described by Schmidt, was found, and also a third alkaloid, belonging to the piperidine series, which will be further described later.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

The Council's Report

is, as usual, a curiously uninteresting production. Humour, satire, and liveliness generally would, no doubt, be resented in such a document; but the record might be made much more informative without any prejudice to its dignity. Take, for example, the first paragraph, the one dealing with the examinations. It is hardly enough to tell us that "the percentage of rejections is slightly higher than last year." How does it compare with other years? If it is the worst year for rejections on record, might that not be stated? Under the "School" would it not be worth explaining what it costs, and showing the Council's reasons (good ones, no doubt), for continuing such an expensive institution? Under "Legal" much more might have been told. What was the general character of the 233 infringements reported? In how many were proceedings taken? How many came before the Courts, and with what results? The White case might have been detailed a little more fully, and the defeat of the Council over the by-law in the Scottish High Court should certainly have been mentioned.

En Revanche,

the compiler of the report might have checked his imagination a bit when he gushed over the victory, which he represents the Council to have organised, won over the pharmacy clause of the Companies Bill. It has crystallised into a legend that we defeated the Government in that fight after a desperate struggle, and the writer of the report puts into his narrative a touch which proves his artistic ability. "The objectionable clause was withdrawn just before the third reading," he says. That is true; but the suggestion that the Government held out to almost the last moment, and only yielded at last to our valour and persistence, is, to put it mildly, picturesque.

The Metropolitan Meeting

of chemists held last week at the Holborn was remarkable for the number gathered in the room, and for the general amiability of the speakers. But it was the most purposeless and unsatisfying "conference" I have ever attended. Those 400 chemists were brought from half-a-dozen counties ostensibly to confer on the affairs of our occupation. A prepared resolution was put before them expressing approval of the Pharmacy Bill, and what was expected and desired was evidently a series of short speeches vying with each other in laudation of the Council's labours. The notoriously ambiguous terms of the Bill were scarcely allowed to be alluded to. Mr. R. A. Robinson voiced the uncertainty in which many chemists who want to understand the measure have found themselves on several points. Must all the directors of a company carrying on pharmacy be qualified or will one qualified man leaven the lot? Would Clause 11 permit any "firm" to to keep open shop for the sale of poisons whether its partners were qualified or not? A "locum-tenens" present put the particular inquiry whether he would have to be re-registered every time he took charge of a new business (and pay, pay, pay, each time, too). None of these ambiguities was cleared up. We were told not to concern ourselves with details, and we were pleaded with most eloquently to show the Government and the nation that we were unanimous, so that those two outside entities might duly fear us. As a conference the affair was an organised farce.

Judge Bacon,

of the Bloomsbury County Court, has had a good drilling in pharmacy law, and his decision in favour of the

company who used their predecessor's labels, with the words "member of the Pharmaceutical Society" on them, seems sound. Following the exact words of the 1852 Act, he held that they did not assume, use, or exhibit any name, title, or sign implying that *they* were members of the Society. The label only said that their predecessor was a member. It may be as well to point out that this ruling does not by any means cover a similar use of a predecessor's label bearing the word "chemist" upon it by an unqualified successor. The words in the 15th section of the 1868 Act are specific: they say that any unregistered person who shall take, use, or exhibit the title (never mind what it implies) shall be liable to the penalty. His Honour's opinion—which, however, was not part of his judgment—that a company, not being a person, may if it likes describe itself as a member of the Pharmaceutical Society, is worth noting. A definite judgment to that effect would be worth having: it would be the proverbial provision of an extra supply of rope.

Mr. Fletcher Moulton, K.C.,

is a deservedly high authority on patent and trade-mark law, and I am sure his Trade-marks Bill is designed to meet difficulties which have actually arisen in the administration of the statutes concerning them. But on the surface the innovations he proposes are not attractive. The exact apportionment of justice between the manufacturer who wants a monopoly on the one hand, and the nation generally whose tendency is towards communism on the other, in regard to the employment of words or devices as trade-marks, has been a long and toilsome process, and the results attained after scores of costly contests should not be thrown aside without very obvious reasons. The "invented word" as a trade-mark is the most striking illustration of this position. The Courts, after infinite discussion, have come to the conclusion that a manufacturer who invents a new word has a right to the exclusive use of that word, and that this right is not sacrificed by the fact that the word may be in some way descriptive of the article to which it is applied. This seems simple justice and is, besides, an encouragement to linguistic ingenuity. Mr. Moulton proposes to abandon this reasonable compromise, and suggests, instead of the term "invented word," such a return to barbarity as is involved in the definition "a word or words not to be found in any standard dictionary of spoken language," which would certainly bring on to the trade-marks register, as was pointed out last week, a flood of mere travesties of spelling as substitutes for really invented words.

The Invention of Words

which shall have a meaning, and at the same time be acceptable to the people into whose language they are to be introduced, is not at all an easy matter. A king can make a belted knight and that sort of thing, but a new word which shall have permanent currency is above his might. It cannot be created even by a genius or commanding intellect. "If he attempt anything like innovation," says Professor Whitney, "the conservatism of the community will array itself against him with a force of resistance against which he will be powerless." Advertisers can sometimes accomplish what is impossible to kings and geniuses, but even their powers are limited. Look through the advertising-pages of this journal, and judge how many of the invented words therein prominent will live in the English language when the money-scaffolding by which they are kept upright is withdrawn. As for the difficulty of inventing a new word, let anyone try to concoct a single term which shall correctly represent our phrase "chemist and druggist," and which shall be so phonetically simple as to have a chance of general acceptance.

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Editorial Comments.

The Council Contest.

As the time for voting seven candidates into the Pharma-
ceutical Council draws near, the interest in the contest, such
as it is, increases, and by a strange fatality the interest is
provided by a few of the retiring Councilors. It will be
remembered that when we addressed these gentlemen last
month we received replies from all except the President
(Mr. Newsholme) and Mr. A. L. Savory, but we were not
disposed to emphasise that fact until we learnt from Messrs.
Dudderidge and Henry that they also had failed to get
replies from them, Messrs. Allen and Atkins also remaining
silent. The questions which Messrs. Dudderidge and Henry
submitted were printed in our last issue, page 743, and the
fact that thirteen out of seventeen candidates replied to

them is sufficient evidence of general interest in the subjects involved. We cannot explain why Messrs. Allen, Atkins, Newsholme, and Savory have not replied, but we do not consider the fact that postage for replies was provided is sufficient reason for expecting a reply. It is frequently bad business to put statements in black and white, no matter what they may be, but we should think the reason for silence in the present instance is that some Councillors who seek re-election on the basis of their past work on the Council resent any inquiry as to what they may do in the future. That is a perfectly legitimate policy, and while the voters are entitled to expect from candidates the usual courtesy of correspondence, they have no right to demand replies to questions. On the other hand, candidates must put up with the consequences of their silence. The conditions of the election have wholly changed within recent years. Not long ago two or three candidates beyond the required number sufficed to make a contest for fourteen vacant seats, and then the councillors seeking re-election could fairly say that the voters were so satisfied that any declaration of policy was unnecessary. Now there are seventeen candidates for seven seats, and it is only fair to the other candidates that those seeking re-election should take as kindly to the heckling process; in fact, the conditions are such nowadays that pharmaceutical councillors should give an account of their stewardship just as members of Parliament do. The silence of the four members in regard to the by-law questions is contrary to the practice in general elections, and will bear similar consequences, for it shows the voters how to make room for new men, of whom several have good claims for the consideration of voters. We say this with the results before us of the postcard vote which closed last Saturday.

We asked our subscribers to name the seven candidates who they consider will be elected. The response has been exceptionally small, thus indicating how very little interest has been taken in the election so far, but such as it is it serves to show that the retiring councillors may all be re-elected. The following is the order of election suggested by the postcards:—

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Mr. William Martindale. | 5. Mr. A. L. Savory. |
| 2. Mr. S. R. Atkins. | 6. Mr. Octavius Corder. |
| 3. Mr. C. B. Allen. | 7. { Mr. A. S. Campkin. |
| 4. Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme. | { Mr. J. B. Stephenson. |

Mr. Martindale is placed in the first position by half the voters, and the other favourites for the first place are Messrs. Atkins, Newsholme, and Allen, but Messrs. Corder and Campkin are placed similarly by a few, who we feel sure will not get our guinea. For the seventh position there is a tie between Mr. Campkin and Mr. Stephenson. Mr. Gifford, who in our voting last year tied for the seventh place, is now a decided ninth. Of this year's new candidates it will be seen that Mr. J. B. Stephenson is the favourite. Then follow Mr. Harry Kemp, of Manchester; Mr. McLaren, of Edinburgh; Mr. Paterson, Aberdeen; Mr. Mackenzie, Edinburgh; and Mr. S. N. Pickard, of Ossett. It is interesting to compare the candidates who ran last year and are doing so again:—

	1900		1901
	Postcard vote	On the poll	Postcard vote
Mr. A. S. Campkin ...	11th	14th	7th
Mr. R. L. Gifford ...	7th	9th	9th
Mr. C. E. Pickering ...	15th	16th	10th
Mr. G. J. Gostling...	16th	15th	13th
Mr. J. W. T. Morrison ...	17th	17th	17th

This vote should serve to show the voters who are interested in new candidates that they must work hard for

them. Early in the contest a circular on behalf of Mr. Pickering was issued, and since our last issue we have received circulars in favour of Mr. Paterson and Mr. Stephenson, which have been sent to all the voters. Each of these gentlemen, in common with other new candidates, has expressed his views in recent numbers of this journal, and there should be little difficulty by voters deciding which ten or more names to erase from the list.

Cinchona in Java.

THE condition of cinchona cultivation in Java is not altogether that of an open book, at least so far as knowledge in the London market is concerned, for it is a prey to all sorts of rumours, especially as to cultivation being on the decline. We have during the past ten days had the opportunity of getting authentic information on the matter from two gentlemen who are not primarily interested in cinchona production. One resided in Java for nearly ten years, following a scientific pursuit, and the other spent nearly two months in the island investigating the cinchona question. Both agree that cinchona cultivation is on the up grade in Java, and that the cultivation of ledger trees there may be said to be in its infancy. Everything is giving way to ledger trees, which are all planted as graftings upon succirubra seedlings. These compound plants flourish exceedingly in the well-cultivated soil, which is kept as clean as any Surrey market-garden. There is no sign of any plantations going out of cultivation; rather the contrary, as the whole tendency is to get bark of high quinine percentage. Much interest is taken by the planters in the Bandong Quinine-factory, and as the planters can with advantage get their highest-yielding barks worked up there, they do not export the best barks. The factory is now the only one in Java, and it is slowly making its influence felt on the market. Last year it sold 900,000 oz. of quinine by auction locally, the bulk of it going to the United States. We may note that the exports of quinine from Germany to the United States decreased 1,000,000 oz. last year. It has often been asserted that the Java planters have the quinine situation in their own hands if they would come to some agreement to restrict the output or control the supply of bark. This is just what they cannot, or will not, do. On the contrary, they ship larger quantities every season. For instance, the shipments for 1898-1899 have averaged over 11,000,000 Amsterdam lbs. per annum, against an average of 9,000,000 for 1895-1897. During the first four months of this year the shipments also show the large increase of nearly 1,000,000 Amsterdam lbs. To this fact, taken together with the heavy London stock of quinine, is attributed the recent depression of the market and want of confidence among speculators. During this week there has been a slight revival, but it is thought to be merely a "move" with the idea of giving a filip to the bark auctions at Amsterdam, at which the quantity offered is again large, representing nearly 1,080,000 oz. quinine in the bark, or over 30 tons. The result of these auctions will be found in our Trade Report, and will be eagerly awaited by quinine speculators and dealers generally, for upon it depends the immediate course of the quinine market. According to the drug statistics there was a stock of 3,330,000 oz. of quinine in the London warehouses at the end of April, and although this is slightly less than the stock at the corresponding period of 1900, it has none the less disheartened speculators. The deliveries for April were only 37,000 oz., while the imports reached the respectable total of 218,480 oz. The above stock is a heavy one, and the figures since the

beginning of the year, month by month, show that it is normal in recent history:—

	1901	1900
	oz.	oz.
January ...	3,300,000	2,800,000
February ...	3,100,000	3,090,000
March ...	3,150,000	3,320,000
April ...	3,330,000	3,430,000

We may repeat in regard to the heavy shipments of cinchona from Java that they are not a matter of uprooting trees or anything of that kind, but are simply the natural outcome of a culture which is carried on with excessively cheap native labour, and under the best possible scientific conditions. There is no evidence, as far as we can gather, that this is done at a loss to the planters, and they are not in the slightest interested in what will suit quinine speculators.

Remarkable Oil-seeds.

BROADLY speaking, the subject of oil-seeds does not come under our immediate cognisance, but when it is borne in mind that the chief and best of all vegetable oils—namely, olive oil—holds an important place in pharmacy, the connection between it and other sweet vegetable oils will be apparent. No excuse is needed, therefore, in introducing to our readers two remarkable fruits the seeds of which have from time to time for some years past occasionally found their way into the port of Liverpool from West Tropical Africa. As is well known, a large proportion of the various products of the West Coast of Africa, as well as of Brazil, come into Liverpool, as is evidenced by new drugs that are pretty frequently turning up at that port. As with the case of an unknown drug, whether it makes its first appearance in London or Liverpool, or simultaneously in both centres, its botanical source, properties, and uses are the first points to be determined, and in the ever-increasing demand for material to supply the mills of the oil-crushers there is always a brisk interest in new oil-seeds. Many that have once appeared in the market during the past ten or fifteen years have not been seen since, while others have become regular articles of commerce.

It is not a little remarkable that in these days of exploration and travel a long period sometimes elapses before the botanical origin or source of some common trade-products becomes known. An apt illustration of this fact is given in the fruit now illustrated, which first began to make their appearance as oil-seeds in Liverpool about the year 1877, under the name of "M'Poga" nuts. Nothing was then known about them except that they were rich in oil, and that they were imported from the West Coast of Africa. Though the seeds usually arrived without the fruits, the fruits themselves were occasionally seen, and as they mostly contained the perfected seeds there was no difficulty in fixing the connection between fruit and seed, and so obtaining a further clue to their botanical identification. The material, however, in the absence of leaves and flowers, was not sufficient to make more than a shot at the natural order to which they might perhaps belong, and the Section *Chrysobalanæ*, of the Natural Order *Rosaceæ*, was suggested as their probable home, inasmuch as the fruits seemed to have some points analogous to those of the genus *Parinarium*. In the M'Poga we have an irregularly spherical fruit about 2 inches in diameter, covered, apparently, when fresh, with a succulent epicarp. The stone of the fruit is normally four-celled, one of which is usually abortive. It is fully $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick, traversed externally by numerous irregular ridges and undulations, and showing on section an obscurely marked rumination. The seeds were

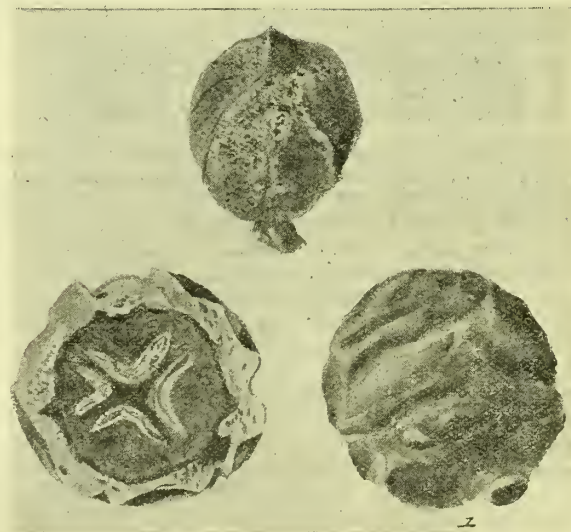
reported at the time when they first made their appearance as yielding 80 per cent. of a peculiarly fluid oil. This plant has quite recently been determined by Pierre under the new genus *Poga*, with the specific name *oleosa* in reference to



FRUIT AND SEEDS OF THE M'POGA NUT (*Poga oleosa*, Pierre), half nat. size.
1, Entire fruit. 2, Section of fruit. 3, Seeds.

its oily seeds. It has been placed in the Natural Order *Rhizophoræ*. The seeds of the M'Poga are eaten in Africa as food, being sometimes dried over an open fire.

The second seed to which we refer is the produce of a fruit which in its entire state is by no means dissimilar to that of the M'Poga internally. A section shows a hard,



FRUIT OF PANDA OLEOSA (Pierre), half nat. size.
1 (bottom figure, right hand), Entire fruit. 2 (bottom figure, left hand), Section of fruit. 3 (top figure), Stone of fruit, pulp removed.

bony stone, somewhat pitted or ruminated, with four fully-developed seeds. After the removal of the fleshy portion of the fruit the stone shows a rough and deeply pitted surface, with strong, irregular, sharp longitudinal ridges. This fruit

was thought at first to be a close ally to the M'Poga, and probably another form of the same species. It has been now described, also by Pierre, as *Panda oleosa*, and placed by him in the Natural Order *Celastrinaceae*. Thus two oil-yielding plants which attracted some attention nearly a quarter of a century back have at last been determined; not a very rapid process, it will be thought, in the development of useful plants in a country that has attracted, and still attracts, so much of the attention of Europe.

The Defenceless Doctor.

A LUGUBRIOUS article in a recent issue of the *Medical Press and Circular* bewails the "defencelessness" of the profession of medicine. The obvious purpose of the writer is to attack the constitution of the General Medical Council, with which body he does not appear to be in love, and to lend colour to his complaint a few instances of "defencelessness" are cited. The itinerant quack, the fashionable London West-end bone-setter, and other "specialists" who drive about in broughams and get guineas from their clients (they not being duly State-labelled), the multifarious vendors of patent medicines, and ill-regulated medical charities all combine, we are told, to keep the struggling qualified medical man in the grip of iron-fisted poverty. Besides these the heretical "prescribing chemist" has lately taken to himself the functions of a urine-tester and general clinical expert. With regard to the latter encroachment the medical scribe advises "a determined and united protest" on the part of the medical profession, which resolves itself later into a boycott. For, he continues, "a simple announcement on the part of medical practitioners that they advise patients not to take prescriptions to chemists who test urine would hardly fail to have a salutary effect." The writer goes on to complain that the art of Röntgen-ray diagnosis (with its emoluments) has drifted into the hands of "chemists, photographers, and instrument-makers." All these disasters are placed to the discredit of the G.M.C. in that they are not able to check unqualified practice. We are not disposed to question the incapacities of the G.M.C., whose conduct may savour somewhat of the incapacity of the Pharmaceutical Council in times past by ignoring the claims of the mass of the profession, but the writer displays a singular ignorance of the genesis of the urinalysis and Röntgen-ray work done by chemists. These side-lines have been developed of recent years at the direct instigation of medical men themselves, who have come to recognise the superior facilities and aptitude possessed by pharmacists for this kind of work. That recognition is not only complimentary to the higher chemical training of the modern pharmacist, but is an instance of the gradual growth of better relations between the two branches of the healing art.

A STROKE OF GENIUS.

There is a man with a sublime wit in the drug-trade. He wrote as follows to the *Daily News* :—

"PHARMACEUTICAL ETHICS."

SIR,—This morning I had a circular notifying an advance of 30 per cent. on saccharin-powder and tablets, owing to the Budget. As saccharin is a coal-tar product, I fail to see why it should be so enormously affected by a tax on sugar; nor why 1s. per ton on exported coal should send up saccharin 1s. 4d. per oz.

April 25.

Yours truly,
VICTIM.

The heading is not inappropriate when we reflect upon the things that are done in name of the great cult; but the connection between the export-duty on coal and the import-duty on saccharin is one of those strokes of genius which are rare to mankind.

TRIAL OF ANTI-CUTTING AGREEMENTS.

We understand that Messrs. Elliman, Sons & Co., of Slough, are bringing an action for breach of agreement into the High Court shortly, against purchasers of their embrocation who, after signing the anti-cutting agreement, sold, or were privy to selling, the embrocation at cut rates. This is, we think, the first case in which the direct issue will be argued before the High Court, and as the defence will be that the agreement is a contract in restraint of trade, the decision should be important.

MR. DOBBS'S BILL.

The *Barnsley Chronicle* of last week contained a brief note on "Trade and Poisons," which begins with this sentence by the *Barnsley Chronicle* :—

In a district such as this, which is agricultural as well as mining, the restrictions of the present Pharmacy Act, that no poisonous compounds for land or trade purposes can be dispensed except by registered chemists, cause much inconvenience, and inflict a certain amount of hardship.

The rest of the Editorial note is word for word reprinted from the *Times* political notes of April 24. We daresay the local chemists will have something to say to the *Barnsley Chronicle* in regard to the alleged inconvenience, but we call attention to the matter chiefly in order that subscribers in other parts of the country may look out for similar notes in their local papers. The greater part of the *Times* political note was printed in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of April 27, page 704, and comparison of it and also of the sentence quoted above from the *Barnsley Chronicle*, will give them an indication as to whether or not these Editorial notes come from one source.

AT IT STILL.

Mr. John Islip, *alias* Louis, *alias* Cowper, appears to be an incorrigible. It will be remembered that on May 2, 1900 (see *C. & D.*, May 5, page 739), he was sentenced at the Clerkenwell Sessions to twelve months' hard labour for obtaining credit under false pretences. Our knowledge of this gentleman dates from April, 1898, when we tried to interview him at 72 Albany Mansions, Albert Bridge Road, S.W., but failed. In our issue of February 4, 1899, we published *facsimiles* of his "orders" to chemists, and this week we have received another request from "Harlow, Essex," and dated "May 7, 1901," to Mr. F. Langley, of Norfolk Square, W., which is almost identical with the following already published, except that Mr. Islip now prefers his goods to be forwarded "per parcels post" :—

Dear Sir,

Please send the small
order on other side per Carter
Paterow at your earliest
convenience
Yours truly
J. Islip.

The "small order" is as follows :—

2 oz. A. & Hanbury's tasteless castor oil; 3 oz. permanganate potash; 8 oz. Oppenheimer's callophyllin et pulsatilla co.; Browne's chlorodyne, second size; Carter's pills; 4 oz. iodine; 2 boxes Rendell's quinine pessaries; 1 doz. Southall's sanitary towels, large size.

Needless to say the "small order" was not executed by Mr. Langley, and other chemists had better be on their guard for requests of a similar character. Since writing the foregoing another "order" has been received.

RESEARCH AT UNIVERSITIES.

Professor William Ramsay, F.R.S., taking up the question of the relation between the technical industries and Universities of this country on the lines discussed by Professor H. E. Armstrong (see *C. & D.*, April 20, page 650), writes to

the *Times* supporting the view that our Universities should do more to encourage graduates to pursue research. He compares the work done in the German Universities with the little that is done here, and mentions that the Prussian Government spends more annually on the University of Göttingen alone, than is spent on our Science and Art Department. He does not think that the money granted to that Department is well spent, because it practically all goes for the teaching of elementary science, while few artisans are receiving instruction in their trades, and no provision is made for the training of the leaders of industry. The start gained by Germany and America is so great that Professor Ramsay considers it "appalling to contemplate the fate in store for this country within a very few years unless we are warned in time and profit by the warning." It strikes us that while this sort of pessimism may not be out of place in the *Times*, we have scores of eminent chemists in this country, amongst them Professor Armstrong and Professor Ramsay, whose duty it is to teach and guide students, and if these students are sent forth to the world by professors without an appreciation of the needs of the country, as Professors Armstrong and Ramsay express them, it is difficult to understand what good millions of money would do in the direction indicated. The very fact that the majority of "finished" students of chemistry go in for scholastic appointments is fair evidence that manufacturers have some grounds for saying that the University man is of little value to them. They complain that men lack initiative and gumption—two essential factors for success in all commercial matters.

CLEOPATRA'S HAIR-RESTORERS.

In "Three Plays for Puritans," recently published, Mr. Bernard Shaw expounds his latest message to the world in a style which discovers no waning of Shakespearian brilliancy or want of originality. Indeed the book is, perhaps, more audaciously and aggressively clever than any of its predecessors, and that it is "original" is, of course, a foregone conclusion. Not the least part of the interest—to many the greater part—is to be found in the Preface and the Notes which accompany each play, and the pharmaceutical reader will scarcely miss the following passage in *Cæsar and Cleopatra* (page 137):—

CÆSAR: What are you laughing at?

CLEOPATRA: You're bald [*beginning with a big B and ending with a splutter*].

CÆSAR [*almost annoyed*]: Cleopatra!...

CLEOPATRA: So that is why you wear the wreath—to hide it. . . . You should rub your head with strong spirits of sugar, Cæsar. That will make it grow.

In the Notes to this play "G. B. S." states that for the sake of conciseness in a hurried situation he had made Cleopatra recommend rum for Cæsar's baldness. That was an anachronism, to balance which he gives two remedies she actually believed in, quoted by Galen from Cleopatra's book on "Cosmetic." They are as follows:—

For bald patches powder red sulphuret of arsenic and take it up with oak gum, as much as it will bear. Put on a rag and apply, having soaped the place well first. I have mixed the above with a foam of nitre, and it worked well.

The following is the best of all, acting for fallen hairs, when applied with oil or pomatum; acts also for falling off of eyelashes or for people getting bald all over. It is wonderful. Of domestic mice, burnt, 1 part; of vine-rag, burnt, 1 part; of horse's teeth, burnt, 1 part; of bear's grease, 1; of deer's marrow, 1; of reed-bark 1. To be pounded when dry and mixed with plenty of honey till it gets the consistency of honey; then the bear's grease and marrow to be mixed (when melted), the medicine to be put in a brass flask, and the bald part rubbed till it sprouts.

Concerning these ingredients Professor Gilbert Murray, who made the translation, wrote that some he did not understand, and possibly Galen did not, for he quotes Cleo-

patra's own language. Mr. Murray thought foam of nitre was something like soapsuds, and reed-bark might mean the outside membrane of a reed. He conjectured that Cleopatra's preference for the second recipe was due to the fact that in most of the others given the skin had to be lacerated, pricked, or rubbed until it bled. He did not know what vine-rag was. Perhaps some of our pharmaceutical etymologists can throw more light on the subject.

Reviews.

Commercial Organic Analysis. Vol. III., Part 1. Third edition. By A. H. ALLEN, F.I.C., F.C.S. Revised and edited by Dr. MERRITT MATTHEWS, Ph.D. 8vo. Pp. xvi + 589. London, 1901: J. & A. Churchill. 18s

WE have previously explained that the exigencies of copyright, as well as the magnitude of the work of revision, have compelled Mr. Allen to seek assistance on the other side of the Atlantic. We must confess that, so far as the present volume is concerned, this is not altogether a successful arrangement, for Dr. Merritt Matthews, professor of chemistry and dyeing in the Philadelphia Textile School, is clearly at his best on the coal-tar colours, so that the revised volume is unequal. The coal-tar colours are, however, treated in a masterly and thorough fashion, and one is astonished at the pages upon pages filled with tables giving the analytical reactions, formulae, and characteristics of numerous dyes now in use. The tannins and tanning-materials cover about one hundred pages, and are well treated on the whole; but some recent work is not adequately treated, and in some instances important observations are ignored. For example, much more might have been written with advantage about kino and on writing-inks. The treatment of carmine, under the heading of "Cochineal," is, we think, neither adequate nor, in many details correct. We freely admit that this may not matter much nowadays, seeing the synthetic dyes are replacing all those of animal and vegetable origin; but that is a very good reason for omitting articles altogether or treating them in dictionary-fashion. Were the book less valuable than it is, these critical objections might not have been written; but it is precisely on account of its standard character that we call attention to things which if done better would have served more to sustain the reputation of the original.

The Extra Pharmacopœia. By WILLIAM MARTINDALE, F.L.S., F.C.S., and W. WYNN-WESTCOTT, M.B. Tenth edition. 32mo. Pp. xxxii + 688. London, 1901: H. K. Lewis. 10s. 6d. net.

A NOTE in our issue of May 4 briefly indicated the principal changes which have been made in this new edition. When the book was first published in 1883 it had a longer title, but the authors are wise to reduce it now to "The Extra Pharmacopœia" simply, as that is the name by which it is universally known. It may not be without interest to trace the growth of the work now that the editions run into double figures:—

Edition I.	...	1883	...	viii + 314 pages
" II.	...	1883	...	vi + 330 "
" III.	...	1884	...	vi + 330 "
" IV.	...	1885	...	416 "
" V.	...	1888	...	462 "
" VI.	...	1890	...	xii + 486 "
" VII.	...	1892	...	viii + 524 "
" VIII.	...	1895	...	xxviii + 584 "
" IX.	...	1898	...	xxviii + 626 "
" X.	...	1901	...	xxxii + 688 "

The first three editions were pulse-feelers, and were substantially the same; but since, each succeeding edition has incorporated references to the medical and pharmaceutical literature of the period intervening. We take at random a few extracts from the new things in the tenth edition as the best evidence of the wide range of information included:—

Kresolum, ortho-kresolum. P. Aust. Add. [With description including kresol. liq.]

Surgical lubricant for catheters, &c.—Starch 4, glycerin 35, add water 8½, heat to boiling, remove from flame, and add boric

acid in powder 2½, warm to dissolve, and when nearly cold add phenol 1. The lubricant is supplied in collapsible tubes.

Colinarium Alkalinum Compositum, T.H.—Carbolic acid 2 gr., sodium bicarbonate 5 gr., borax 5 gr., water to 1 oz.

Cupri Sulphocarbolas.—*Syn.* cupri aseptol. In light-green, small crystals, soluble in water, useful as a hæmostatic.

Syrupus Glycerophosphum Compositum, B.P.C.—[Formula quoted.]

Acidum Sulphuricum.—This acid may be considered the key which unlocks the treasures of chemical science, as it opens the way to the production of other mineral acids. . . [Arsenical contamination is then referred to appropriately and pharmaceutically.]

Honhin.—Dose, 3 to 15 gr. (0.2 to 1 gramme) up to 150 gr. a day. A compound of tannin and albumen, keratinised, greyish-brown, odourless, and tasteless powder, insoluble in water, partly soluble in alcohol and in alkaline solution. "An intestinal astringent."—*Therap.* 1900, 205. "Especially useful in infantile diarrhoea."—*Therap.* 1901, 10.

Ether, pro Narcosi, P.G. IV., sp. gr. 0.720.

Kelene, a fancy name for ethyl chloride.

Gargarisma Formaldehydi, G.H.—Solution, 1 minim to water 1 oz.

This just takes us half-way through the letter "A," and the quotations suffice to show the utility of the new matter. It will be seen that the additions to the Austrian Pharmacopœia and the new German Pharmacopœia, as well as such local standards as those of the German and Throat Hospitals, are included in the edition. Chemical, pharmaceutical, and therapeutical literature are all well represented in the volume, the secondary list of drugs has been augmented, antitoxins are brought up to date, and quotations from Dr. Harrison Martindale's recent *C. & D.* article on bacteriological methods bring that section of the "Extra Pharmacopœia" into line with the most recent work.

Business Changes.

"BOOTS, CASH CHEMISTS" have taken a four-storey corner block at 87 Farringdon Road, E.C., which they announce will shortly be opened as their London offices and warehouse.

MESSRS. WILLIAMSON & SON, chemists and druggists, have opened new premises at 10 Bondgate, Darlington.

MR. RICHARD VICTORIUS has taken over the management of the firm of the late Max Victorius, wholesale druggist, Hamburg.

MR. J. JOHNSTONE, chemist and druggist, has opened business as the Crofton Park Drug-stores at 339 Brockley Road, S.E.

MR. J. MILNER, chemist and druggist, has purchased the old-established business at 9 The Village, Old Charlton, and will carry it on as a branch.

MR. A. E. FARROW, chemist and druggist, Brompton, has taken over the business at 22 High Street, Brompton, carried on for many years by Mr. Walter E. Stokes, who has had to retire owing to impaired health.

MR. ARTHUR BARKES, chemist and druggist, has acquired the dispensing and drug portion of Mr. H. E. Cullwick's business, at 24 Dudley Street, Wolverhampton. Mr. Cullwick will devote his time in future entirely to his dental business, which is carried on at the same address.

Personalities.

MR. H. V. TRUMAN, chemist and druggist, Ludlow, has purchased the business of Messrs. Mitchell & Co., at Dursley, Gloucester.

MR. WM. ASPINALL, chemist and druggist, Ashton-in-Makerfield, has been appointed analyst to the Abram Urban District Council.

MR. EDWARD EVANS, JUN., of Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool, has been re-elected President of the local Liberal Federal Council.

MR. J. H. LONGMAN, pharmaceutical chemist, Little-hampton, has been re-elected, for the eleventh time, people's warden of the Parish Vestry.

THE Chemist-Mayor of Dover, Mr. W. J. Barnes, J.P., has been elected a member of the London Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men.

MR. J. H. MORRIS, chemist and druggist, has been re-elected, for the fourth time, Chairman of the Sanitary Committee of the Branksome Urban District Council.

MR. E. J. GREEN, pharmaceutical chemist, Rochester, has been elected Secretary of the City of Rochester Sailing Club. This club is a very old one, and comprises a membership of about thirty yachts.

MR. GEORGE EADE, chemist and druggist, Goswell Road (Alderman of Finsbury), has been appointed to the chairmanship of the Finance, Dispensary, and Vaccination Committees of the Holborn Union of Guardians.

MR. F. W. BATES, J.P., chemist and druggist, Brooks Bar, Manchester, has been re-elected Chairman of the Stretford Urban District Council. Mr. Bates has been instrumental in securing recently a triumphant majority of the votes of the ratepayers in Stretford against amalgamation with the city of Manchester.

THE success of the May-Day Demonstration at Rhyl this year appears to have been mainly due to the energy of the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Percy J. Ashfield, chemist and druggist. Besides acting on various committees and as stage-manager at the indoor performances, Mr. Ashfield presented the May Queen with a handsome bouquet of flowers.

THE fifteen gentlemen selected for election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society this summer are:—Professor A. W. Alcock, M.B., Mr. F. W. Dyson, M.A., Mr. A. J. Evans, M.A., Professor J. W. Gregory, D.Sc., Captain H. B. Jackson, R.N., Mr. H. M. Macdonald, M.A., Mr. James Mansergh, M.Inst.C.E., Professor C. J. Martin, M.B., Major Ronald Ross, M.R.C.S., Professor William Schlich, Ph.D., C.I.E., Professor Arthur Smithells, B.Sc., Mr. M. R. O. Thomas, F.Z.S., Mr. William Watson, B.Sc., Mr. W. C. D. Whetham, M.A., and Mr. A. S. Woodward, F.G.S.

Marriages.

KIMPTON—DE BLAQUIÈRE.—On April 30, at Knock-bourne Church, by Rev S. H. Dorman, M.A., Rector of the parish and cousin of the bride, assisted by Rev. J. Nason, B.A., Ernest Stanley Kimpton, of 36 and 37 Mincing Lane, E.C., to Eleanor Henrietta Dorothy, third surviving daughter of Dr. J. W. de Blaquièrre, of Conna, co. Cork, Ireland.

STACEY—SHIELL.—On May 1, at Holy Trinity Church Northwood, Middlesex, by the Rev. T. Turner, Vicar of St. Saviour's, Fitzroy Square, W., assisted by the Rev. E. Ll. Stacey, Vicar of Helme, Huddersfield, the Rev. N. R. Fitzpatrick, Vicar of All Saints', Woodford Wells, Essex, and the Rev. E. B. Backhouse, Vicar of the parish, the Rev. Robert Hugh Stacey, M.A., youngest son of Mr. Samuel Lloyd Stacey, J.P., pharmaceutical chemist, of Rose Hill, Hoddesdon, Herts, to Edith Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. Robert P. Shiell, of South Hill, Northwood.

Deaths.

BAKER.—At Lanark, on April 13, Mr. William Horsman Baker, chemist and druggist. Mr. Baker had been in business in Chester for some years.

CLARKE.—At Hanley Castle, Worcestershire, on April 27, Mr. Henry Barnes Clarke, chemist and druggist, Great Malvern. Aged 72.

CURRIE.—At 294 Bath Crescent, Glasgow, on April 28 Mary Stark Kirkwood, the beloved wife of Mr. John Currie pharmaceutical chemist.

GILMAN.—At Birmingham, on April 25, Mr. Joseph Gilman, chemist and druggist. Aged 69. Mr. Gilman was a well-known sportsman and old-time chemist, whose business had gradually passed into an extensive one in oils and colours.

KIRKMAN.—At Eastbourne, on April 21, Mr. Charles John Kirkman, chemist and druggist. Aged 58.

MARSHALL.—At Leicester, on April 28, Mr. John William Marshall, chemist and druggist. Aged 25.

Legal Reports.

Pharmacy Acts (Ireland).

THE TULLAMORE POISONS CASE.

IN the Dublin Court of King's Bench on May 3, before Lord O'Brien (Lord Chief Justice), Mr. Justice Andrews, and Mr. Justice Holmes, a case stated came on for hearing in which the complainant was Acting-Sergeant Michael Lawler, R.I.C., and the defendants Messrs. P. & H. Egan (Limited), merchants, Tullamore. On a previous occasion, Patrick Delaney, assistant in Messrs. Egan's, was convicted of selling corrosive sublimate, and on appeal to the superior Court the Magistrates were ordered to impose a penalty on Delaney, whereupon he was fined 5*l*. Then the company was proceeded against, but the resident Magistrate dismissed the case, and ordered the acting-sergeant to pay Messrs. Egan 1*l*. costs. The contention for Messrs. Egan was that they were not "a person" within the meaning of the Act; that the Pharmaceutical Society should have been the complainant, not Lawler; and that the decision in the case of "The Pharmaceutical Society v. Boyd & Co." in 1893 governed this very case.

Mr. Featherstonhaugh, counsel for the defendants, said that the company should not be held liable now after a smart penalty had been imposed on their assistant.

Mr. Day, counsel for Lawler, said that Delaney was convicted under the 30th section of the Pharmacy Act of 1875, and he now asked that the company should be fined under the Poisons Act.

The Court reserved judgment until Thursday, May 9, when it was held that, although an incorporated company, defendants came within the description of person in section [?] of the Act, and the Resident Magistrate was wrong in dismissing the case. The decision would therefore be quashed, and the case sent back to the Petty Sessions for the Magistrates to impose a penalty. No costs were given.

High Court Cases.

ELECTROLYTIC ALKALI PATENTS.

THE case of Atkins and Applegarth v. Castner-Kellner Alkali Company (Limited) came before Mr. Justice Buckley in the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on May 2. The plaintiffs seek an injunction to restrain the defendants from infringing the plaintiffs' patent of December 19, 1890, for means of and apparatus for separating alkaline and earthy metals and other products from the salts of such metals and other substances contained therein. They also claim damages, or in the alternative for an account of profits, delivery up of the apparatus alleged to infringe the plaintiffs' patent. Plaintiffs allege that patents taken out by Moulton, Young, Castner, and Kellner for the electrolytic production of caustic soda were anticipated by their invention. The plaintiffs arrive at their result by subjecting a solution of salts to electrolysis in electrolytic apparatus, the cathode of which is composed more or less of a flowing or moving surface or body of mercury whereby the metal or hydrate of metal can be continuously removed by the counter electromotive force set up at the cathode by the metal and the hydrogen. Plaintiffs contend that they were the first and true inventors of the process, and that the defendants are manufacturing, using, and selling caustic soda produced by a process which is an infringement of plaintiffs' patent. Mr. T. Terrell, K.C., Mr. Astbury, K.C., and Mr. Gray appeared for the plaintiffs; and Mr. Moulton, K.C., Mr. Bousfield, K.C., Mr. Graham, and Mr. Walter for the defendants. Mr. Terrell's opening of the case was heard on May 2, and he continued his statement on the 3rd, when Mr. Matthew Atkinson Adam was called in support of the plaintiffs' case and examined by Mr. Astbury, K.C.

The further hearing has since occupied the Court's attention day by day, and is proceeding as we go to press. We briefly indicate what has transpired. Mr. Dougald Clarke, for plaintiffs, testified as to the identity of the first claim (depending on a flowing body of mercury) with the Castner-Kellner patent. He was examined for the better part of two days on this and other details of the patents. He was of opinion that there was no novelty in plaintiffs' specification

except the suggestion to continuously remove the mercury amalgam and supply fresh mercury. The mere movement was nothing, but it was the removal which was important.

Mr. E. J. Bevan, F.I.C., F.C.S., followed on the same side on Monday, and his evidence was an explanation of the electrolytic decomposition of common salt supplemented by the results of experiments which he had made for the purpose of determining the time and depth of diffusion in mercury of sodium deposited in it.

This evidence closed plaintiffs' case.

Mr. Terrell put in the patent granted to Atkins & Applegarth.

Mr. Moulton pointed out that the defendants did not admit that the plaintiffs had any title to do it.

Mr. Terrell next put in two agreements—dated November 15, 1897, and April 7, 1898—made between Atkins & Applegarth on the one part, and the Commercial Development Corporation on the other part. He also put in an agreement dated April 17, 1901, made between Atkins & Applegarth of the one part, and Mr. F. E. Smith of the other part, and also a certified copy of the register, as to the state of the register on April 23, 1901—viz, long after the action was commenced.

Mr. Moulton, K.C., said he was quite prepared to fight out the case on its merits, but when the proper time came he should maintain that the patent in question did not belong to the plaintiffs, but was registered in the name of somebody other than the plaintiffs.

His Lordship said on looking through the agreements the result of them was that the Commercial Development Corporation were equitably entitled to the patent under the agreement of November 29, 1897, and F. Smith had bought the patent subject to that agreement. His Lordship thought plaintiffs were entitled to go on.

Mr. Astbury afterwards addressed his Lordship on points of law, and summed up the evidence given for the plaintiffs, concluding his speech on Tuesday.

Mr. James Swinburne was then called for the defence, and his evidence took the Court into Wednesday.

On Wednesday Mr. Swinburne concluded his evidence on behalf of the defendants, and was followed by Lord Kelvin, who said he did not think the plaintiffs' patents told the world anything they did not know before. Mr. E. T. Smith, manager of defendants' works, was giving evidence, when the hearing was adjourned.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

TINCTURE OF IODINE.

AT North London Police Court on May 3, William G. Blackham, chemist and druggist, 570 Hornsey Road, was summoned for selling tincture of iodine which contained only 76 per cent. of the potassium iodide which should have been present. Mr. A. M. Bramall, solicitor to the Islington Borough Council, asked for an adjournment, as he said the witness who purchased the sample had not arrived, and, at the moment, the defendant had not come either. But later on Mr. Blackham's assistant arrived, and said he was instructed to plead guilty. The Magistrate said it would be better for the defendant to come himself and hear what was said. Mr. Bramall: It is an important case, and I think the defendant had better be here. The case was accordingly adjourned.

MILK OF SULPHUR.

AT Bradford on May 2, Benjamin Skirrow, grocer, of Calverley, was fined 10*s*. and costs, with the alternative of ten days' imprisonment, for selling milk of sulphur certified to contain only 38 per cent. of pure sulphur and 62 per cent. of adulterants. The defence was that the milk of sulphur was purchased early in 1898, and had depreciated by keeping.

CAMPHORATED OIL.

AT Portsmouth on May 6, Sidney John Abbott, of 153 Queen Street, Portsea, was summoned for selling camphorated oil, which Mr. J. Moore Murray, the public analyst, certified to be of 17.62 per cent. deficient in camphor, according to the B.P. formula. Defendant did not dispute the analysis, but urged that there was an exceeding great difficulty in preparing and keeping camphorated oil in accordance with the

B.P. If there were any space in the bottle between the oil and the cork this became filled with camphor-vapour, he said, which escaped when the cork was removed. If the standard was to be maintained, it would be necessary to make fresh camphorated oil for each customer. Furthermore, there was nothing to prove that the B.P. was a legal standard at all, or that oil of that standard was asked for. "Camphorated oil" was asked for, and was supplied. Camphorated oil of the B.P. was not asked for, and there was nothing to show that it was intended. He disputed the suggestion that camphorated oil should contain 21 per cent. of camphor. It was the custom of chemists to make this oil according to their own formulae, and these differed greatly.

Mr. Ching, for the prosecution, said the case of *Dickens v. Randerson (C. & D., February 2, page 204)* established the British Pharmacopœia as the legal standard, and the public analyst, recalled, said defendant was wrong in taking anything but the British Pharmacopœia as his standard. He did not admit the plea that the oil lost the camphor on exposure; he had exposed samples five days without loss.

Defendant was fined 15s., including the costs.

GEORGE DONALDSON, chemist and druggist, of 122 Queen Street, Portsea, was also summoned at the same Court for selling camphorated oil with a deficiency of 1762 of camphor.

Mr. Kent, for the defence, said it had been defendant's practice to keep his camphorated oil in a bottle mixed according to the formula of the British Pharmacopœia, but the bottle used by him for many years for this purpose was broken a few weeks ago. A new bottle was substituted, but in filling that the assistant mistook the proportions, and put in 1 lb. of camphor to four "pints" of oil, and this accounted for the deficiency. As soon as the error was discovered, it was rectified. Mr. J. Moore Murray, the public analyst, would not admit (in answer to Mr. Kent) that the proportions mentioned by the defendant would account for the deficiency. He did not know whether they would or not.

Defendant was fined 15s.

THE KEIGHLEY WARRANT CASE.

THE adjourned sal-volatile case in which Mr. Walter Ecroyd, pharmaceutical chemist, North Street, Keighley, is concerned, was down for further hearing at the Keighley Borough Court on Monday; but as Alderman B. S. Brigg, the presiding Magistrate at the first hearing, was unable to attend, it was arranged that the adjournment should be extended for a week.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re MARTIN WALDEMAR ADLER, 42 Station Road, Hove, Sussex, Chemist.

THE first meeting of creditors was held at the office of the Brighton Official Receiver on May 9. The following are creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Arnold, E. R., Brighton	30	0	0
Cohen & Co., London	10	10	0
Goldhill & Co., London	14	16	2
Kempple & Co., London	10	0	0
Lynch & Co., London	10	10	8
Stepney & Co., Brighton	21	8	9
Sutton & Co., London	22	15	2

Fully Secured.

Loudon and Westminster Loan Company, London	55	0	0
Hudson's, Brighton... ..	10	6	0

Partly Secured.

Adler, M., Hanley	260	0	0
Jones, J. H., Hove	30	0	0
Webber, R. H.	44	0	0

Re JAMES CHARNOCK MARSHALL, 5 Dunster Avenue, Rochdale Manufacturing Chemist.

A MEETING of creditors was held at Rochdale on May 7. Particulars of debtor's affairs were given in last week's issue,

page 735. In answer to the Official Receiver the debtor said all his money had gone in the Bancroft Extract Company. The account of the petitioning creditor was for goods supplied and money paid in lieu of shares arranged to be taken up by Mr. Ellison. He further stated that his account against the company was 1,800l. This included 500 l. shares, the remaining 1,300l. being for goods supplied and money lent. The company, which had been finally wound up, paid a dividend of 2s. 1½d. in the pound. There was some dispute about his account, and eventually Mr. J. Afflech, of Manchester, who acted as trustee for him under the deed of assignment, agreed to accept 600l.

Re WILLIAM LEECH, 111 High Street, Waltham Cross, Herts, Chemist.

DEBTOR filed accounts showing liabilities 153l. 14s. 2d., of which 140l. 17s. 6d. is unsecured, against assets, after allowing for rent and sheriff's charges, 8l. 2s. 4d. According to the Official Receiver's observations the debtor stated that in October, 1898, he purchased from the widow of his late employer the business at Waltham Cross for 220l. The purchase-money was payable by monthly instalments, and the business (which is entirely a cash-trade) has since been carried on by him in his own name. At the date of the receiving order (April 26) the sheriff of Herts was in possession of the bankrupt's effects, but has now withdrawn. The premises are held under a verbal tenancy at a rent of 3l. 6s. 8d. a month, and the business has now been stopped. The debtor attributes his position to "want of capital and to bad trade" and in the deficiency account which he has filed he shows that on April 26, 1900, he had an excess of liabilities over assets amounting to 102l. 15s. 2d. His household expenses since then had amounted to 104l. He has paid on account of the purchase of the business 26l., and *per contra* there has been a net profit on the business from the same date of 100l.

Re HYDE, NASH & Co., 16 Philpot Lane, E.C., Drug-merchants.

At the London Bankruptcy Court on Thursday, Robert Boyle Hyde and Thomas Nash came up for public examination, on accounts showing total liabilities 11,970l. 12s. 1d., of which 6,544l. 5s. 11d. are expected to rank against assets 928l. 2s. 9d. Debtors attribute their failure primarily to a heavy loss in 1890 on a consignment of preserved ginger; also to falling off in trade, to increased competition, and to heavy interest on borrowed money. Mr. Hyde also alleges losses by his partner speculating on the Stock Exchange, whilst Mr. Nash alleges losses through his partner's speculations in oil-paintings. The debtor Nash said it was possible that the assets would realise more than the amount set against them, as some of the stock was being disposed of at a larger profit than was anticipated. Asked when the firm first knew itself to be insolvent, the witness said the balance-sheet of 1898 showed a small deficiency. He admitted that he had lost 2,000l. of the firm's money by speculating on the Stock Exchange with the knowledge of his partner. During the past two years witness had drawn 800l. or 900l. for his personal needs. The Official Receiver drew the witness's attention to the giving of securities to a firm of creditors, and asked under what circumstances they were given. The debtor said the firm in question were pressing for payment, and being afraid of a writ, he gave them the securities in order that the friendly relations should be continued. After some further questions the examination of both debtors was ordered to be concluded.

Re GEORGE F. CROCKER, Devonport, Mineral-water Manufacturer.—The creditors include W. J. Bush & Co., 10l. 6s. 2d.; W. Hay (Limited), 10l. 3s. 11d.; E. Breffit & Co. (Limited), 18l. 15s.; Rylands (Limited) Hope Glass Works, 43l.

Re CHARLES C. POTTER, Seal, Mineral-water Manufacturer. The creditors include Bush & Co. (Limited), 27l. 5s. 3d.; Carbonic Acid Gas Company, 10l. 15s.; Defries & Co., 10l. 6s. 6d.; Glover & Co. (Limited), 10l. 5s. 11d.; Idris & Co. (Limited), 10l. 11s. 6d.; Rylands Glass and Engineering Company (Limited), 85l. 5s. 8d.

Re WOKING MINERAL-WATER COMPANY (Tom A. Sanderson), Woking.—The creditors include Barnard & Sons, 152l. 19s. 5d.; Barrett & Elers, 3l. 15s. 3d.; Barnett & Foster, 64l. 3s. 10d.; Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., 14l. 8s. 7d.; W. Hay (Limited), 40l. 5s. 3d.

"WHERE did you graduate from?" "From the School of Pharmacy." "Dear me, is it possible? What a strange choice for a city youth! But if I remember rightly, your father was a farmer, too."

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Darton, F. A., and Phillips, F. G., under the style of F. Darton & Co., St. John's Street, Clerkenwell, manufacturing opticians.

Neild, F., and Capper, N., under the style of Neild & Capper, Tunbridge Wells, physicians, &c.

Richards, J. E., and Cairns, L. M., Huddersfield, physicians, surgeons, and accoucheurs.

Roe, J. W., and Busteed, J. H., under the style of Roe & Busteed, Ellesmere, Salop, physicians and surgeons.

The Bankruptcy Acts 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATION.

Leech, William, Waltham Cross, chemist.

New Companies & Company News.

HUYTON STORES (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of grocers, provision-merchants, chemists, druggists, &c. The first directors are T. May Smith, jun., J. J. M. Jardine, and J. H. Jardine. Qualification, 50*l.*

JORDISON'S MINERAL-WATER COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of mineral-water manufacturers, beer, wine, and spirit merchants, &c. The first directors are J. Rain, T. Levenson, and I. Jobling. Registered office, 1 Skinner Street, Stockton-on-Tees.

JOSHUA HARDMAN (LIMITED).—Capital 50,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement between H. E. Hardman, J. Hardman, and H. J. Williams, of the one part, and J. Settle, of the other part, and to acquire certain chemical and other works, situate at Milton and Tunstall, Staffs, and to carry on the businesses of manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals, alizarine, dyes and dye stuffs, ammoniacal and tar distillers, oil-refiners, &c.

JOHN G. WEBB & CO. (LIMITED).—Capital 12,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of mineral-water manufacturers, now carried on at 28 Islington Green, N., at Sugar House Lane, High Street, Southampton at 33 South Castle Street, Southampton, and at 33 South Castle Street, Liverpool, under the style of "John G. Webb & Co.," and to adopt an agreement with G. N. R. Sloper and W. C. Kenny. No initial public issue. The first directors are G. N. R. Sloper and W. C. Kenny. Registered office, 28 Islington Green, N.

NON-REFILLABLE BOTTLE SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire certain provisional patents relating to the manufacture of non-refillable bottles, to enter into an agreement with A. Florio and A. Tinelli, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in bottles, flasks and bottle stoppers, wine and spirit merchants, perfumers, chemists, &c. The first directors are Count E. F. Lergardi, F. P. Elkington, and A. Florio. Registered office, 7 and 8 Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W.

JAMES GIBBS & FINCH (LIMITED).—Capital 50,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares (2,500 preference). Objects: To adopt an agreement with L. Ann Gibbs (the vendor) for the acquisition of the business now carried on at Bristol, Plymouth (Devon), and Cwmbran (Monmouth), and elsewhere as "James Gibbs," and to carry on the business in all or any of their respective branches of vitriol and chemical manufacturers, chemical merchants, &c. The first directors are F. M. J. Gibbs, W. John Finch, and M. L. Finch. Qualification, 500*l.*. Remuneration of F. M. Gibbs, 300*l.*; W. John Finch, 300*l.*; and M. L. Finch (managing director), 400*l.* per annum. Registered office, Cattedown, Plymouth.

BOOTS (LIMITED).—At a sale of shares at Lincoln on May 3, 170 1*l.* shares (fully paid) in Boots' Cash Chemists (Western) were sold for 22*s.* each; for 30 1*l.* shares (fully paid) in Boots (Eastern) 42*s.* was offered, but refused.

BARCLAY & SONS (LIMITED).—At the annual meeting of the shareholders at the offices of the company on April 26, Mr. Horace Davenport presiding, the report (see *C. & D.*, April 20, page 656) and balance-sheet were adopted. Mr. A. E. Barclay was re-elected a director, and Mr. Harry Barker re-appointed auditor.

GERMAN CHEMICAL DIVIDEND.—The Union factory for chemical products at Stettin paid a dividend of 10 per cent.

for 1900. For new buildings, &c., 3,806*l.* was spent, and 10,065*l.* was written off. The net profits were considerably affected by the extensive repairs, the cost of which amounted to 15,613*l.* The sales amounted to 407,073*l.*, the net profits to 31,824*l.*, and 541*l.* was carried over.

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY & PHARMACY (LIMITED).—At a meeting of the directors held on March 12 it was decided to place 50*l.* on deposit as a nucleus for a reserve fund, and after deducting the usual amount for depreciation and formation of the company, to declare an interim dividend for the half-year ending February 28, at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum free of income tax. Arrangements are in negotiation for extending the teaching to the various colonies.

MEISTER, LUCIUS & BRUNING (LIMITED).—The directors have declared a dividend of 20 per cent. for the past financial year, as against 25 per cent. last year. The report states that the general condition of the company's business was less satisfactory last year than in the previous year, owing to the disturbances in China and the plague and famine in India; the high price of coal and higher wages also tended to lessen the profits of the company. The Alizarine Convention, arranged in the summer of last year, justified expectations that it would result in a steadier condition of the market for alizarine products. The arrangements for the production of synthetic indigo are said to be steadily progressing, in spite of lower prices and improved methods of producing the natural dye.

GOLD-SPINNER SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Under a winding-up order recently made against this company, the statutory meeting of creditors was held on May 3, at the Inns of Court Hotel, W.C. Mr. Cully, Assistant Receiver, reported that the company was formed in July, 1899, under the title of "The Ambro Syndicate (Limited)," with a nominal capital of 25,000*l.*, divided into 20,000*l.* preferred and 5,000*l.* management shares, to carry on the business of wholesale grocers, chemists, fruit and general merchants. The promoter was Mr. A. H. Deakin, and the qualification of a director was membership of the company. The company was formed with a view to selling various goods as proprietary articles under a trade-mark or name, it being the intention of Mr. Deakin to work the business with that of another company with which he was then connected. The name of the company was changed in March, 1900, to its present title. The title "Gold-spinner" was registered as a trade-mark for the company's goods. In April, 1900, Mr. Deakin assigned his interest in a magazine entitled *The Gold-spinner* to the company, in consideration for which, and his services in relation to the flotation, he became entitled to 10,000 preference shares, 5,000 management shares, and the post of managing director for ten years, at 1,500*l.* per annum. A prospectus was issued in June, 1899, inviting subscriptions for 10,000 preferred shares, and in response applications for 160 shares were received, whilst in December last a further prospectus was issued, which resulted in one share being applied for. In consequence of the failure to obtain subscriptions from the public, 2,500 preferred shares were allotted to various underwriters, but, with two exceptions, no payment had been made to the company in respect of those shares. A meeting of the underwriters was held last January, when a resolution was passed for voluntary liquidation. The failure of the company was attributed by Mr. Deakin to the default of the underwriters. Accounts had been filed showing liabilities, 5,455*l.*; assets, "unpaid calls," 2,309*l.*; and a total deficiency of 58*l.* 10*s.* to the contributors. Mr. Bogle, chartered accountant, was appointed liquidator, and a committee of inspection was also nominated. The shareholders met later in the day at Carey Street, W.C., and passed similar resolutions.

"AERATED" OR "MINERAL."—Mr. R. Johnson, President of the National Union of Mineral-water Manufacturers' Association, having written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer stating that glucose is not used in the making of mineral waters, as stated in the Budget speech, the Chancellor has replied in a letter, saying:—"You will see that the expression used was not 'mineral' waters, but 'aerated' waters, and it was used in its widest sense as covering ginger beer and other drinks which are, or might be, made with glucose instead of sugar."

Glasgow Exhibition.

A First Walk Round.

THE great International Exhibition was formally opened on Thursday, May 2. The weather was magnificent, the crowds were great, Royalty smiled its sweetest, and the result was a phenomenal success. Fortune continued to favour Glasgow as far as the weather was concerned during the three following days, and more than a quarter of a million of people passed through the turnstiles before Saturday night, and if the interest is kept up at its present high level the ultimate financial success of the big show is absolutely secure.

In the Winter issue of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* a full description was given of what was to be expected at the exhibition, but the anticipations raised have fallen far short of the reality. Entering the exhibition by the Hillhead gate, which is situated close to the University, the first thing that strikes the visitor is the splendid situation chosen for the buildings. Facing him, right in front, stands the huge Industrial Hall, with its gilded dome and cupolas, like some great Oriental palace. To the right is the magnificent pile of the new Art Gallery, erected at a cost of over a quarter of a million sterling. To the left the huge dome of the Concert Hall is flanked by the turrets and minarets of the Russian buildings, with the model farmstead, the Canadian Pavilion, the Japanese Palace, and the Irish Cottages in the distance. Between the visitor and all these buildings run the sluggish waters of the Kelvin, and on the rising ground between the river and the University are placed numerous exhibits, restaurants, and places of amusement. Practically everything can be seen at a glance from the top platform of the water-chute, and it would be difficult to conceive of a site more admirably fitted for the purpose than the grounds of Kelvin Grove. The fact that the entire space, with the exception of the Machinery Hall, which is situated behind the Fine Art Gallery, can be seen at once adds to the sense of magnitude, so that the Glasgow Exhibition hardly suffers in comparison with that of Paris, although the latter was many times larger.

Some two or three weeks ago the Chairman of the Building Committee of the Exhibition stated that by the opening day there would not be a nail to drive. This was, perhaps, a perfectly accurate forecast of the state of things in connection with the building itself, for the work seems to have been well out of hand by the end of April. The same remark cannot, however, be applied to some of the stalls, a few of which are still far from being ready. The Russian pavilions in the grounds are empty, and the long row of stands allotted to Russia in the Industrial Hall are also vacant. The French pavilion in the grounds is not ready, although most of the exhibitors in the main building have their stands in order. Queensland is also behind, and here and there throughout the Exhibition a few isolated exhibitors are still busy getting their houses in order. Taken over all, however, the show was practically complete on the opening day. The Canadian exhibits, the Japanese, Western Australia, Denmark, Morocco, the Irish pavilion, Persia, India, and Rhodesia were all well forward, while the great majority of the home firms were also prepared to receive their visitors.

Entering the Industrial Hall by the main entrance and turning to the left we find ourselves at once in the foreign section, and almost the first thing that strikes the eye is the pretty stand of M. Pinaud, who shows a selection of perfumery and soap and the other specialities with which his name is associated. In another minute we think we are in the centre of Paris, for there are no fewer than 400 French exhibitors. It would take a long time to describe all that is to be seen here, from dazzling diamonds to scores of vases, from Louis XIV. furniture to motor-cars, and musical instruments to boots and shoes. Passing on through Denmark, where the exhibits are principally fine porcelain and terracotta and other statuary, we come to India and Ceylon, which are housed in a bazaar resplendent with costly wares laid out in showcases, which are themselves works of patience and exquisite art. The principal exhibits are textile fabrics, or articles in wrought metals or ivory. Ceylon sends some chutneys, pickles, tea, coffee, and cocoa, but so far there is no sign of any Indian drugs. We are assured,

however, that some drugs will be forthcoming. Persia is a small show, but a brilliant one. A few drugs are shown, including bitter and sweet almonds, apricot kernels, numerous qualities of tragacanth in tears and flakes, Persian opium containing 13 per cent. of morphine, a mixture of gums, some of which are ghatti and labelled "insoluble gum," and white, green, and blue galls, priced respectively 45s., 55s., and 60s. per cwt. Close by is the exhibit from Queensland. The centre is taken up by a huge obelisk representing the output of gold by Queensland from 1858-1900, a total of 14,500,000 oz., of the value of over 48,000,000/. Almost the only stand that is finished here is an exhibit by Thomas Tyrer & Co., of the Stirling Chemical-works, who show a very nice selection of the metals and salts of bismuth and mercury. One of the sights at this section will be Bright's mercurial fountain, but we have not yet seen it in operation. A most interesting show is made by Rhodesia. Minerals, metals, foodstuffs, cotton, rubber, tobacco, and native curios produce an impression of wealth and interesting associations such as will strike many a visitor.

Retracing our steps we once more cross the Central Hall below the dome, passing on our way the immense statue of the King, which, indeed, is what strikes the visitor the moment he enters the building. Seen from a distance it appears to be an excellent likeness; the pose is dignified and the general effect very pleasing. Immediately to the right of the entrance is the Canadian display, and a most magnificent one it is. The fine show here made of minerals, furs, leathers, canned fruits, and general produce would require an article to itself, while the large pavilion in the grounds outside, devoted to agricultural products in Canada, is even more interesting. There is little or nothing in the way of drugs. Lyman, of Montreal, shows a nice selection of perfumes, bay-rum, dentifrice, and sachet-powder. Many chemists will be also interested in the huge pieces of mica and felspar, as well as the asbestos and other mineral products in this section. The West Australian court contains a case with about 10,000/. worth of gold nuggets, but while this is perhaps the most valuable in point of money worth, the exhibits of wood are even more interesting. Near this is the exhibit sent by the Sultan of Morocco, which is a stall of Moorish design, containing rich and costly carpets, tapestries and silks, Moorish arms in great variety, and such curios and bric-a-brac as is usually found in Eastern bazaars.

So far as the main building is concerned, the above are the chief foreign and colonial exhibits. There are hundreds of exhibitors from the British Isles. Pharmacy proper is poorly represented, there being only one exhibit apart from the manufacturers of chemicals, this firm being T. & H. Smith & Co., of Edinburgh. The exhibit consists of four square cases, one of which is filled entirely with opium and its alkaloids; a second with other alkaloids, glucosides, and resins; a third with gelatin capsules; and the fourth with coffee-essences and other dietetic preparations, for which the firm is famous. The first case contains Indian opium in halls, Persian in sticks and balls, Australian and Chinese opium; huge pyramids of sulphate and hydrochlorate of morphia, one large crystal of codeine, pure morphine in crystals, narceine, papaverine, thebaine, xanthine, apomorphine, gnoscapine, and meconoisine and their salts. The second case contains strychnine, atropine, caffeine, theine, aloin, salicin, euonymin, cantharidin, podophyllin, jalapin, resins of jalap and scammony, tannic and gallic acids, and citrate and carbonate of lithium. The case of capsules makes a very pretty show, but it strikes us that it would have been a better advertisement if the contents of the capsules had been in every case stated more plainly in English.

Of the chemical exhibits the principal are those of J. & J. White, Glasgow; R. & J. Garroway, Glasgow; Brunner, Mond & Co.; the United Alkali Company; and John Riley & Sons, Hapton. The stand of the first-named contains a very large assortment of chromates, bichromates, trichromates, and tetrachromates of the alkalies, and some metals, one feature being a huge crown composed of potassium bichromate. Messrs. Garroway show a model of their works and a large display of chemicals. Brunner, Mond & Co. have a fine case in white, upholstered in blue velvet, and they show various soda-salts and caustic soda, muriate, and sulphate of ammonia, and also pure zinc containing 99.95 per cent. of

metallic zinc free from arsenic. The United Alkali Company have a large exhibit of a comprehensive character, embracing not only chemicals but hard and soft soaps, toilet soap, glycerin, mineral acids, manures, laundry bleach, &c. Messrs. Riley have a fine display of copper-sulphate crowns, and a great variety of chemicals and mineral acids nicely shown in recess-labelled bottles. The Patent Borax Company have a stand on which they show all their specialities. The Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Company show very fine specimens of plumbago and talc, the latter in sticks, squares, and powder.

Oils and soaps are a fairly big show, and one peculiarity of the soap exhibits is that almost every case contains busts of the King and Queen, modelled either in stearine or soap. Of these firms we may mention the Broxburn Oil Company, Young's Mineral-oil Company, Price's Candle Company, Ogston & Tennant, Isdale & Macallum (ammonia dry soap), Lever Brothers, Robin and Houston, Pumpherson Oil Company, J. C. & J. Field, besides quite a number of exhibitors of lubricating oils, amongst whom are Stern Brothers, of 57 Gracechurch Street, E.C., who make a striking show of water-white oils, also petroleum-jelly and a novelty in the shape of "Sternoline" oil for screw-cutting and hydraulic machinery, besides other products.

There are several stands of varnishes, and at one of these (W. Brown, Glasgow) may be seen some very fine specimens of gums and resins, including mastic, sandarac, gamboge, copal, damar, shellac, kauri, animi, and asphalt.

Coming to the exhibits which border on the dietetic side of pharmacy, we have, among others, a show of Plasmon. This stall presents a very pleasing appearance, and it is quite likely to be popular, inasmuch as demonstrations are given of the preparation of Plasmon snow-cream, a teaspoonful of Plasmon producing as much snow as four eggs. The representative of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST was invited to sample several different preparations, and they certainly had a very fine taste, and if Plasmon fulfils all that is claimed for it, it has a future in store. Cerebos' salt, Mellin's food, Cox's gelatin and table-jellies, Brand & Co.'s specialities, Glendinning's beef and malt wine, Gemmel's "Vifera" wines, Keen & Robinson's mustard, B. & V. Colman's mustard, and Baird's coffee-essence are to the front.

Leaving the Industrial Hall we pass through the Grand Avenue, where will be found a concrete history of ship-building on the Clyde. Half way towards the Machinery Hall is the stand of Kelvin & James White, where there is a splendid display of the scientific instruments for the manufacture of which the firm has a world-wide renown.

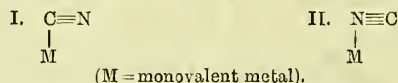
From the Grand Avenue we cross Dumbarton Road by a bridge, from the top of which we look into the huge Machinery Hall, which covers an area of five acres. A multitudinous variety of machines are here. Nearly all the machinery is in motion. There does not seem to be any pill-making machinery, the nearest approach to that being a huge copper pan for confectionery purposes—a pan that certainly would sugar-coat some millions of pills at one operation. There is a very nice exhibit of six machines in operation making cocoa powder, chocolate, and confectionery, shown by A. J. Assafrey, Glasgow. Another trade-attraction is that of the baking of Bermaline bread by Montgomery & Co. (Limited). Here are three large ovens which illustrate the methods of baking in Scotland, Ireland, and England. This exhibit is a revelation to the average spectator. Our notions of baking in the olden days, and in many quarters even to-day, are strangely at variance with the method by which the work is carried on here. The flour is weighed, mixed, and sifted, and the dough is kneaded and divided into loaves entirely by machinery—a very different state of affairs to what was the usual practice not so very many years ago. Pharmacists will also be interested in some degree in the Coffee-still which is shown by John Miller & Co., Glasgow. Briefly, the principle is that steam is passed into the apparatus at one end and cold "wash" is pumped in at the other. The steam evaporates the spirit out of the wash and the wash takes the heat out of the steam.

These are first impressions, and may suffice to indicate that, apart from a host of things to appeal to the man in the street and the man of culture, the Exhibition has much in it that directly interests the chemist and the pharmacist.

Cyanogen Compounds.

CURRENT interest in the sale of photographic poisons, following upon the Dublin decision to the effect that ammonium sulphocyanide is a metallic cyanide, brings to the surface some facts in regard to cyanogen compounds which the older race of chemists, and even the younger, may have forgotten. The composition and constitution of the cyanogen group of chemical compounds are extremely interesting, as they open to us some of the most wonderful results of isomerism, and call forth far-reaching speculations.

To commence with we have the poisonous dicyanogen, C_2N_2 or $NC-CN$, a gas with penetrating odour which may be produced by heating ammonium oxalate with phosphorus pentoxide, and is hence viewed as the nitrile of oxalic acid. This body is the nearest approach obtainable to CN , the cyanogen radical, which does not occur in the free state. It is met with in two isomeric modifications according as to whether the elements or radicals with which it is combined are directly attached to the carbon or to the nitrogen atom, thus—



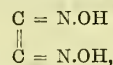
I. is the grouping occurring in the metallic cyanides principally and in organic cyanides; it is the true cyanogen known as carbonitrile.

II. occurs in organic combination and is isocyanogen, also known as pseudocyanogen or carbylamine.

These two isomeric modifications in combination with monovalent alcohol radicals form respectively the nitriles and the isonitriles according as to whether the alcohol radical replaces the "M" in the position I. or II. above. The nitriles (of which HCN hydrocyanic acid, the nitrile of formic acid, may be regarded as the first member) may also be viewed as alkylcyanides, and as such, starting from methylcyanide or acetonitrile, are bodies possessing an odour which is not very disagreeable, but—and here is one of the wonderful changes which the mere alteration in position of the nitrogen and carbon atoms produces—the isonitriles have distinct chemical properties, are revolting in odour, and are very poisonous.

Cyanides are salts of the monobasic hydrocyanic acid, and appear to be derived partly from normal hydrogen cyanide, $H-C \equiv N$ (e.g., potassium cyanide, $K-C \equiv N$), and partly from the isomeric iso-hydrogen cyanide, $H-N \equiv C$ (e.g., the cyanides of mercury, silver, and zinc). The reasons for this assumption are the different behaviour with alkyl iodides. In acting upon potassium cyanide with methyl iodide in alcoholic solution, we obtain a nitrile—acetonitrile—but on treating the cyanides of mercury or silver with methyl iodide we obtain methyl isocyanide (i.e., an isonitrile). The cyanides of the alkali metals are very poisonous. These, as well as the cyanides of the alkaline earths, are soluble in water with alkaline reaction. The remaining metallic cyanides, with exception of mercuric cyanide, are insoluble in water; they are all intensely poisonous.

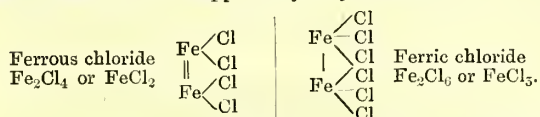
Whilst mentioning nitriles we cannot overlook the closely-allied fulminates, which are nitro-substitution products of acetonitrile, (Kekulé), one atom of H in the compound CH_3-CN being substituted by NO_2 , whilst the other two H atoms are replaced by two Ag for example, or by one Hg atom, forming respectively fulminating silver, $CAg_2(NO_2)-CN$, and fulminating mercury, $CHg(NO_2)-CN$. The acid, fulminic acid, is not known in the free condition; it is said by Steiner to be constituted—



and its salts have explosive and highly poisonous properties.

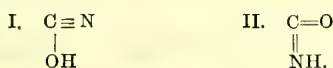
The ferro- and ferricyanogen compounds contain $Fe(CN)_6$, and as this grouping always remains intact when ferro- and ferricyanides suffer decomposition, and as the iron in them is not capable of detection by usual analytical processes, the group $Fe(CN)_6$ has been regarded as a radical, forming respectively ferro- and ferricyanides according as it is quadri- or tri-valent. Arguing on analogy with ferrous and

ferric chloride we are able to explain the difference in valency of this radical $\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$. The single atom of tetravalent iron in ferrous chloride is apparently only divalent, and in ferric chloride apparently only trivalent—



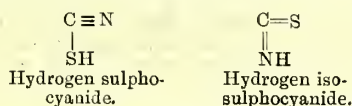
On substituting in ferrous chloride the trivalent radical C_3N_3 (the tricyanogen radical) for every chlorine atom, we arrive at the grouping $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CN})_{12}$ as an octovalent radical, and on substituting similarly four C_3N_3 for the six Cl atoms in ferric chloride, we obtain the hexavalent radical. Therefore the usually assigned formulae $\text{K}_4\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$ for potassium ferrocyanide and $\text{K}_3\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$ for potassium ferricyanide should, according to these views, be doubled, but for simplicity's sake the halved radical $\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$ is used. It is remarkable that the ferrocyanides and ferricyanides are not poisonous.

We next come to cyanic acid, and here again two isomers are possible:—



The compound I. is designated cyanic acid, whereas the second is the iso- or pseudo-cyanic acid. Only one acid of this composition is known, and it is uncertain which formula corresponds to it. Both acids are, however, known in the ethereal form in combination with alcohol radicals.

Finally we arrive at the sulphocyanides, or thiocyanides, or rhodanides. Of sulphocyanic acid again two isomers are possible—



From the first we obtain the sulphocyanides of potassium, sodium, ammonium, &c., and from the second formula the ethereal iso-thiocyanates, the so-called mustard oils. Potassium and ammonium sulphocyanides are poisonous, but they do not give the reactions for cyanides because of the sulphur they contain.

The Gaggling of Glinionus.

[This recent discovery of ours is apparently the second act of a classical drama which, historians tell us, depicts an episode in the Roman Empire at a time when the brilliance of the Cæsarian dynasty had begun to wane. The similarity of this excerpt to certain Galenoplacial mines of more recent date is striking. The scene is enacted in the Forum during the absence of the Cæsar and while the Court is under the temporary rule of CEBEALANUS, the Prime Minister. The slanting beams of the noonday sun light up the flushed face of CEBEALANUS as, ill at ease, he sits in the Chair of State, surrounded by watchful officials. A sprinkling of non-officials are well hidden in the background.]

CEBEALANUS.—The noble Cæsar cannot yet appear.

In laryngital pain (that costs me dear)
He lingers by the waves on Born-os strand,
And waits for deft physician's skillful hand
And ocean breeze those accents to restore
That mid the local organisms soar
And touch the clouds of eloquence when stirred
By depth of feeling or th' improper word
Of blatant heretic— [Murmurs]

GLINIONUS, the heretic [starting up].—My Lord, I swear—

COURTIER.—No, no! Sit down! Be silent, minion! Chair!

WOTANUS, the historian.—Give peace, and let Glinionus have his say;

If not, he'll but return another day
And shock us with worse foolishness, mayhap,
Than e'er has yet been heard. He cares no rap
For decencies of speech. Let old and young
Give heed what time our Glinionus gives tongue
To fancied grievance.

SIMUS, the dikkensam.— Nay; I say not so.
'Twere most improper for the world to know
That some among us violate the law,
And are as Pharisees.

COURTIER (rudely).— Ay, shut his jaw!

GLINIONUS (undaunted).—My Lords, I would remark that anything

I have to say is quite hereft of sting,
And bears the mild innocuous ss of milk.
Far he 't from me th' Imperial Will to hilk.
I am, my friends, the guileless-est of men,
And merely wished to mildly ask you when
'Twould be convenient to give audience till
I spake my word; then ye could have your fill
Of righteous anger and unfettered speech;
I fain would beg the Council to impeach
The ways of —

COURTIER (in a panic).—Silence, traitor! Would you dare
To heard the Cæsar and to scorn THE CHAIR?

GLINIONUS (calmly).—The sacred word of Rulers I revere;
My timid nature makes me shrink with fear
When Cæsar frowns or Cehealanus fumes;
As from moist earth the scorching sun exhumes
Pale clouds of vapour so my courage melts,
And slowly dies the fighting flame that Celts
And Scotchmen fan. I would not whisper aught
That hush would hring to Virtue's cheek, and
naught—

E'en naughty motion dare I seek to make,
But only would I read—

COURTIER (hurriedly).—For Galen's sake!

WOTANUS.—Let glih Glinionus speak. Why should ye try
To stifle deeds and acts that hy-and-hy
Will swamp you in an overflowing stream
Of scorn and much contumely? Do ye dream
That, by such autocratic methods, you
Can kill the Drane-ic axiom "Truth is True"?

ATCANUS, the silver-tongued.—My friend Wotanus, with
exceeding grace,

Against the Dynasty doth state a case
That quite conclusive seemeth. Therefore I—
(Why doth the noble Csehealanus sigh?)
Who guard the treasure for the Council's keep,
Watch keen their morals while th' unthinking sleep.
And so I deferent'ly would suggest
That, spite of what our Rulers have thought best,
'Twere better that such power as despots wield
Should not ohtrude on this, the virgin field
Of unalloyed mora'lity. Yea! yea!
Though proudest empires totter to decay,
And dynasties he wrecked, yet we must learn
That free-born Romans (likewise Britons) yearn
For plain outspoken speech which doth not lag,
But peals resonant, scorning gihe and gag
And clique and closure. Therefore let us see
That we avoid an immorality.

[Profound sensation, in the midst of which an inkpot catches
KARTEGUS on the left eyelid. He swears huskily. RICARDUS
the scribe, chews blotting-paper and expectorates feverishly.]

CEBEALANUS (sternly).—Doth then Atcanus, faithfullest of
friends,

Uphold this heretic's unholy ends?

ATCANUS (suavely).—Nay, nay, my Lord, 'gainst that I must
protest,

But for the sake of peace I think it best!

GLINIONUS.—Who prates of peace? I only want to know—

CEBEALANUS.—I think your wants imprudent. You may go,
Or tell us what you wish to say; but still
You must not say what you would like to say, or
'twill

Be out of order. Therefore, proceed, pray,
But don't say what you say you want to say.

(Curtain.)

MR. COURTENAY (flatteringly): "I had the blues awfully
when I came here to-night, Miss Fisher, but they are all
gone now. You are as good as medicine." Miss Fisher's
Little Brother: "Yes; father says she will be a drug in the
market if she doesn't marry you."



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

The Council Election.

SIR,—Allow us to heartily thank you for inserting in last week's issue the two questions put to candidates with the answers received by us. Members of the Society will notice that four of the candidates—viz, Messrs. Allen, Atkins, Newsholme, and Savory—neither acknowledged nor replied to the queries, although a stamped postcard was enclosed in each instance. Mr. Newsholme is, we understand, at present unwell, but why have not Messrs. Allen, Atkins, and Savory replied? Either they have no opinions on these questions, or they do not think that their constituents should be enlightened as to what these opinions are. We trust that members, by their votes, will emphasise the fact that they wish to be represented only by those of whose views on important questions they are fully cognisant. Will members also note that a copy of the questions and answers was sent to the *Pharmaceutical Journal* for insertion, but no notice has been taken of the request made that they be published. It is evident that to be fully informed regarding pharmaceutical doings and opinions one must go to other sources of information than the [official] journal.

Yours very truly,

FRANK R. DUDDERIDGE, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

May 7. CLAUDE F. HENRY, Edinburgh.

Where the Money Comes from.

SIR,—I have just finished perusing the latest production of the "Pharmaceutical Society"—I mean the "Revenue Account"—and I beg a little of your space for a few comments thereon. I have tried the experiment of dividing this precious document into three sections, and am not a little surprised at the result. We were told a little while ago that the Minor examination did not pay, and that a 10% 10s. fee was imperative. Grouping together the whole accounts for "First, Minor, and Major Examinations" under the new fee we find total expenses, 4,095*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*; fees received, 12,159*l.* 16*s.*—leaving a profit of 8,064*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, which is a fair profit even for a chemist. Even under the old 5*l.* 5*s.* fee the Minor and all other examinations must have paid the Society well. Where, I should like to ask, if the question is not improper, has this 8,064*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* gone? Has it been spent for the good of the candidate, or in protecting him and his interests when he has succeeded in satisfying the Examining Board?

A little further on we find the "School of Pharmacy Account": expenses, 2,484*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*; income (fees), 1,236*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*—leaving a deficit of 1,217*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*, which does not seem to trouble the minds of the Council in the least, as no source of making up this deficiency is given. Surely the Council are not going to meet this deficit from the surplus examination-fees: it could hardly be called fair to ask the candidate to uphold the School.

Last of all we have what might be termed the "Society's Account": expenses, 10,641*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.*; income (subscriptions, restoration and registration fees, and interest on investments), 6,751*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*—showing another deficit of 3,888*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*, of which, again, no source of making up is given.

Surely it is time some Samson rose up in the ranks to protest strongly against this sort of thing, where, evidently, the student (who is seldom a man of means) is called upon to keep the Society from becoming bankrupt. It does not speak much for the business capacity of the Council when it requires to wring from the pockets of young students a mere trifle of 5,106*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* to pay the combined debts of Society and School. I enclose my card, and am

Faithfully yours,

Brixton, May 5.

FAIRPLAY. (149/25.)

Where Some of it Goes to.

SIR,—As a reader of the *C. & D.* permit me to draw attention to a paragraph in your criticism of the Pharmaceutical Council's annual report, which appeared in last week's issue under "Editorial Comments." The paragraph has reference to the Pharmaceutical Society's School of Pharmacy, and runs:—

The school cost the Society about 1,200*l.* last year, but we are not told in the report how many students were "efficiently taught" in it, and that is a needful factor for judging as to whether it is necessary or not for the Society to support an educational establishment now that so many facilities for thorough education are provided throughout the country.

This paragraph appears to throw doubt on the "efficiency" of the teaching in the Society's school, and to question the necessity of the existence of that institution. Reference to the results of the last Major examination held in London shows that 32 candidates were examined, of whom 11 passed, and 21 failed. The following table shows the percentage of passes in the case of "Square" students and of students from elsewhere respectively at that examination:—

	Students from the Society's School	Students from Elsewhere
Entered	11	21
Passed	7	4
Failed	4	17
Per Cent. of Passes	63.6 per cent.	19 per cent.

A glance at this table will, I think, be sufficient to convince anyone that the students in the School of Pharmacy are "efficiently taught." That the School itself is a "necessity" is clearly demonstrated by its very efficiency, and by the fact that in the matter of examination-successes it stands far ahead of any other institution in which advanced instruction is given to pharmaceutical students.

Yours truly,

Leeds, May 6.

JOHN LAWSON.

[Our correspondent supplies part of the information which we think should be given in the annual report. How much of the 1,200*l.* did the seven who passed cost the Society? We have not questioned the efficiency of the teaching.—Editor.]

Bona-fide Conducted.

SIR,—What, according to the Draft Pharmacy Bill, is meant by this phrase? We find the answer in the following words of Section 2 of Clause 2:—

It shall be unlawful to permit or suffer in any such shop any poison to be retailed, or any medical prescription to be retailed, dispensed, or compounded, otherwise than by or under the supervision of a registered person.

Conducting thus consists, so far as poisons are concerned, in retailing—i.e., handing them over the counter. So far as compounding them is concerned, the whole of the preparations into which articles included in the poison schedules enter, may be made up by unqualified assistants or apprentices without any supervision. This looks very like giving away the whole case gratis. What of the public safety? The conducting in respect of medical prescriptions is a little more elaborate. The dispensing has to be under supervision from first to last, however simple or innocent the prescription may be. This seems, however, only to imply the dispensing of preparations any or all of which may be made up as before said. Is it intended to make the mere handing over of a prescription for medicine by an apprentice or unqualified assistant an offence for which he may be fined or imprisoned? It certainly looks very like it.

In order to control the conducting two registers are to be established, one of shops and the other of persons in *bona-fide* conduct of such shops, and Clause 4 of the Bill goes on to say that the Council

may make regulations under which entries in the said registers may be removed therefrom.

"Regulations" is a new term in pharmaceutical legislation. "By-laws" require the sanction of the Society as well as of the Privy Council. If regulations do not require this sanction—and there is nothing to indicate that they do—then

the power should only be granted by by-law, the matters requiring regulation being too important and far-reaching to be dealt with otherwise. There being no provision in the Bill making re-registration of a shop necessary either on a change of occupier or under any other circumstances, provision for removal from this register cannot legally be made either by by-law or regulation: a shop having been once registered remains so. In the latter part of Clause 6 it is stated that removals may be effected by a request either from the master or the assistants. The former only, according to Clause 4, has the power to request a name to be put upon the register, and certainly the onus of having it taken off should alone devolve on him, otherwise the Registrar may find himself involved in a dispute between master and servant, and in some cases may be mulcted in damages. If both may request removal, which of them is to be held liable for the omission if no request is made? The powers for inquiry as to conducting in Clause 8 are too sweeping, and ought to be strictly defined. "Kick him out," says the Vice-President, if the authorised party asks what he considers improper questions. That process bears a close resemblance to deforming an officer of the law in the execution of his duty, and as there are practically inquiries as to a criminal offence, the kicker might have to suffer unpleasant consequences. An accused person is not asked to answer questions without being warned that he need not answer any of them, but that if he do, the answer may be used against him in evidence. It is no disparagement to our officials to say that they have not the necessary training for conducting criminal investigations in order that justice be done to the public and to the accused. Therefore, those cases in which it is difficult to obtain satisfactory evidence or information, should be handed over to the Public Prosecutor to investigate and prosecute. This is the more needful, since power is asked to make the inquiries by a substitute, who may be a mere novice. One is struck with the modesty of the Council in ignoring their own school and inserting "University training" in Clause 10, seeing that they recently refused to accept the M.A. degree as entitling the holder to commence his pharmaceutical studies, although it gives him the entry into any profession. It evidently does not give sufficient culture to enable one to hand a poison over the counter. This training must be widened to include all fully equipped schools. The Universities do not carry on some of the subjects in our qualifying examinations so far as the schools do.

Aberdeen, May 6.

JAMES PATERSON.

Mist. Sennæ Co.

SIR,—Inspired by the Evil One, the revisers of the late Pharmacopœia added sal volatile to the formula for mistura sennæ co., alleging, forsooth, that they wished to save the pharmacist from keeping two kinds. Now, practitioners like myself, who had been accustomed to order Donovan's solution with black draught, find that an incompatible mixture arises which throws down a sediment whose composition surpasseth the wit of man to unravel. Hence we are forced to rack our brains to excogitate some other laxative vehicle for the liquor Donovan, and find a difficulty in suggesting one so effective as mistura sennæ composita prioræ Pharmacopœiæ.

Yours truly,

Dublin, May 1.

L.R.C.S.I. (147/11.)

Counter-surgery.

SIR,—I have read "Xrayser's" observations on the 75. damages case with much sympathy for the unfortunate chemist. I have known a case in which the druggist's windows were broken by an angry crowd because the poor man declined to dress the wounds of a man who, having been injured in the street, was taken for treatment to his shop. A chemist in such a case should apply some simple bandage, charge no fee, and direct the applicant to consult the nearest surgeon or go to the hospital.

For doing such a humane act he could not be punished, and he would only lose the paltry fee which, under no circumstances, could compensate him for the risk incurred. Anybody is justified in such an act of common humanity, but neither patient nor chemist is secure from the most serious consequences in accepting or practising amateur surgery in a land where qualified doctors abound.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

London, May 3.

M.R.C.S. (148/31.)

The Traders' Poison Bill.

SIR,—There are two Bills dealing with pharmacy about to be introduced into the House of Commons, and they are so contradictory in nature that the passing of the one is bound to wreck the other. I would, therefore, urge on the Pharmaceutical Council the advisability of getting the draft Pharmacy Bill brought before the House of Commons at the earliest possible date. Even if it is not passed immediately, our effort to compromise matters with supporters of the limited-liability principle is bound to impress M.P.'s with the fact that we are making an honest, unselfish effort to carry into effect the principles of the 1868 Act in the interests of the people. Such a feeling would render the position of those who seek to introduce a system of free trade in deadly poisons quite untenable. The Pharmaceutical Council has, in my opinion, to a certain extent weakened our position by accepting too readily the carbolic-acid regulations; but it ought not to be difficult to convince M.P.'s that there is a vast difference between low-percentage solutions of carbolic acid and high-percentage solutions of arsenic, or packets of arsenic in powder mixed with a small proportion of other ingredients. Chemists do not care one farthing about the sale of weed-killers and sheep-dips, so far as money profit goes. They are already selling these preparations at a profit of from 5 to 10 per cent., and it is absolute nonsense to say that the public will be benefited financially by empowering ironmongers and seedsmen to distribute deadly poisons. Ironmongers' profits are certainly not such as to induce the people to expect that they will sell weed-killers or sheep-dips at less than 5 to 10 per cent. profit from purely philanthropic motives. I have studied business profits to some extent, and amongst traders I class plumbers' profits highest, and ironmongers' next. So constantly have these men insisted on misrepresenting chemists' profits that they are actually selling illegally weed-killers and sheep-dips at the present time at a profit from 5 to 10 per cent. greater than chemists can get on legal sales of the same articles. The President of the Ironmongers' Association, at Birmingham, is reported (*C. & D.*, April 27 page 678) to have said that "he fails to see any more risk of the people being poisoned by weed-killer obtained from an ironmonger than by that obtained from a chemist." It is no part of our duty to educate this President on matters quite outside his sphere, but the groundwork of the Pharmacy Act consists in the fact, that only men who have given proof of knowledge are empowered to take signatures, attach poison-labels, and give cautions. The Pharmacy Act must be rendered altogether abortive if this power were placed in the hands of ignorant persons. Ironmongers and seedsmen have no correct appreciation of the deadly nature of some of these poisonous preparations, and a signature taken or caution given by them would have no weight with the people. At the same time, power of this kind placed in the hands of Dick, Tom & Harry, would take all power of protecting the people from the genuine qualified man, as poison-labels and signatures would lose all significance to the man in the street. Ironmongers and others must learn that in this matter we are not fighting for a 5-per-cent. profit on weed-killers and sheep-dips, but for the root principle of the Pharmacy Act, and if that is to go we are at least determined that it shall not go until members of the House of Commons and the people generally know what is being sacrificed.

Dumfries, May 6.

JAMES REID.

An Easy Preliminary Wanted.

SIR,—The inalienable right of every pharmacist is to proceed to the medical profession if he feels inclined. Of late barriers in the way have been multiplied, and the supply of really useful practitioners has consequently grown less. One difficulty is the Preliminary. Now the Irish Apothecaries' Hall have ceased to hold this examination for some time, but the Conjoint Colleges still continue it against the express wishes of the General Medical Council. Now, why should not the Hall reconstitute the examination? It would attract candidates from all the country if not unduly severe, and would also serve English and Scotch pharmaceutical students as a *via minima resistentie* to the students' register. Furthermore, it would help to fill the coffers of the Hall—and they sadly need replenishing.

Yours truly,

Dublin, April 30.

L.A.H.I. (147/71)

Disinfectant Contracts.

SIR,—Perhaps the enclosed might interest some of your readers. Tenders being invited by the Union Workhouse here for disinfectants, I wrote to Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Company (Limited) for samples, stating the goods were for the Union contract. These I received and submitted at low prices. I was surprised to find that Jeyes themselves secured the contract by a tender sent direct. I wrote them for an explanation, and received the enclosed reply. To comment would be superfluous.

Yours truly,

Swaffham, April 26. FRED CHRISTOPHERSON.

[The letter enclosed gives the company's explanation, which is: "We are looking after our business now, instead of allowing local people to oust us, as they have been doing during the last few years. As a matter of fact our tender was sent in the day previous to the receipt of your application for prices and samples, but in any case this would not have deterred us from tendering direct." We have seen the writer of this letter, and he explains further that his company, like others in the same business, have found it advantageous and necessary to establish a systematic method for securing such local contracts. In the light of this statement local chemists will also take care to look after their own interests.—EDITOR.]

Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

139/24 *Hugh*.—When a partner severs his connection with a firm he must, in order to relieve himself of liability for the firm's debts contracted after the dissolution of partnership, inform each person or firm with whom the firm have been in the habit of doing business of the fact. A sufficient notice to persons who have not had previous dealings with the firm would be, in the case of the drug-trade, an advertisement in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. It is customary, but not obligatory, to advertise in an official gazette, of which there are three in the United Kingdom—viz., *Dublin Gazette*, *Edinburgh Gazette*, and *London Gazette*. An advertisement to the drug-trade in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST would be considered a more effective notice than an advertisement in one of the official gazettes.

139/48 *Subscriber*.—Under Section 105 of the Patents Act, 1883, any person who represents any article sold by him as a patented article when no patent has been granted for the same is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding 5*l*. The words "patent," "patented," &c., engraved or impressed on the article imply that it is the subject of a patent within the meaning of the Act.

139/32 *Dens*.—See the *C. & D.* of March 16, page 461, in regard to dentists advertising. A handbill distributed freely would no doubt bring a dentist under censure.

143/55 *Hants*.—The net profit of a business is the profit after paying all expenses in connection with the business. For the purposes of income-tax you do not require to tell what deductions you make in respect to rent, assistants' wages, and the like. It is from the gross profit that you deduct these items.

150/28 *Optician*.—It would not be unprofessional conduct for a general medical practitioner to insert atropine into a person's eyes for the purpose of preparing them for spectacle-fitting by an optician.

152/17 *A Subscriber*.—The circumstances of your engagement and dismissal do not exclude the usual trade terms—viz., a month's notice. It is becoming rather common for managers and employers to consider that weekly payments mean a week's notice. That is not so in the retail drug-trade, and those who wish to dismiss their employes on a week's notice must specify the fact when engaging each individual.

140/50 *Saxin*.—If you purchased the medical hall outright and have paid for it, the bankruptcy of the former owner will not affect your rights, but if the deed between him and you is at all of the nature of a partnership your interest in the medical hall will diminish by the amount of the former owner's interest. We cannot say more as we have not seen the deed.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

120/85. *F. S.*—Book on Glue-manufacture.—Ridcal's "Glue and Glue-testing," 10*s*. 6*d*. (Scott, Greenwood & Co.)

110/26. *W. J. H.*—Spice to make Hens Lay:—

Powdered black pepper	...	...	2 oz.
Powdered ginger	...	...	2 oz.
Powdered fenugreek	...	...	1 oz.
Powdered aniseed	...	...	1 oz.
Iron sulphate	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$ oz.
Powdered oyster-shells	...	...	6 oz.

Mix.

A tablespoonful to be mixed with the food for twelve hens daily.

126/64. *Morphia*.—We cannot find that Dr. Fothergill had any special solution of quinine hydrobromate, although his formula for hydrobromic acid is well known. A solution of quinine in hydrobromic acid, preserved with chloroform, is probably what your customer wants.

105/15. *C. A. S.*—The preservative mostly used for fruit syrups is salicylic acid in proportion of 3*ij*. to the gallon. We cannot, however, predict if such an addition would pass the scrutiny of Sale of Food and Drugs Act analysts.

143/23 *I.A.*—The process of Bleaching Beeswax was described in the *C. & D.*, July 31, 1897, page 172.

141/22 *Babus*.—The following formula for Effervescent Saline meets your requirements:—

Sodii bicarb.	...	...	1 lb. 11 oz.
P. ac. tart.	...	...	1 lb. 6½ oz.
Pulv. sacchari	...	...	14½ oz.

Misce bene.

109/55. *Ch. D. W.*—Gum Chicle is the dried milky juice of the *Sapota Muellertii*, a native of Guiana. Chemically it is an oxidised hydrocarbon containing a little resin. In some respects it resembles gutta-percha and caoutchouc. Its chief use is as a basis for chewing-gum.

129/61. *R. C.*—There is no book, as far as we are aware, on the internal administration of paraffin oil (heavy). All qualities of the product are obtainable from Messrs. Stern Brothers, 57 Gracechurch Street, E.C.

142/23. *Velox*.—Your sample of skin-lotion, "neither sticky nor greasy," is prepared from a recipe like No. 2 glycerin-cream in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 9, but with a smaller proportion of tragacanth.

Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

151/27. Address of Ccoke & Tallack, glass engravers.

148/29. Rubber-oil or caoutchoucine: where obtainable?

149/16. Address of M. Bailey & Co., makers of "Pretty Lip" soothers.

151/20. Makers of cheap glass-bottles suitable for 2-oz and 4-oz. varnish stains.

148/52. Where can a circular entitled "Dr. Pavy on Diabetes" be obtained?

152/71. Who are the makers of naphthol soap for cleaning-purposes?

153/28. Makers of wax-labelled bottles for brilliantine such as were used by Sharp Brothers.

152/53. Who supplies nurses' visiting-books ruled and printed, showing date of visit, patient's name and address, nature of illness, &c.?

Association Affairs.

CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

The members of this Association indulged in sociality, pure and simple, on the evening of Thursday, May 2. In the absence of the President, Mr. Morley Taylor was the Chairman, and an enjoyable evening was passed in musical and histrionic display. Amongst the contributors the Chairman, with Messrs. C. Morley, Lewis, Strother, and Latreille distinguished themselves, and Mr. Coupland moved over the ivory and ebony board quite pleasantly.

CARDIFF ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of this Association was held at the Queen's Café on May 6. Mr. W. J. Evans, Hon. Secretary, presided, and there was a fair attendance. A discussion took place on twelve preparations of the B.P., in which Messrs. Blades, Davies, Harry, Francis, Pearman, and Lewis took part. The result showed that members had studied their official guide to advantage. At the next monthly meeting a lecture will be given on botany, by a gold medallist.

A SHEFFIELD SMOKER.

The annual smoker of the members of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical Society took place at the Wharfedale Hotel on May 2, Mr. J. B. Pater (President) in the chair. There was an excellent attendance. The gentlemen who contributed to the programme were Dr. Sorby and Dr. Spiers, Messrs. T. Wright, G. Elliott, J. Hall, C. F. Carr, and Thompson. In the course of the evening the prize-winners in the recent essay-writing competition, Messrs. Walter Cooper and Wright, were presented with their prizes. The whole entertainment passed off very successfully.

NORTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The final meeting of the session was held on May 3, at the Black Boy Hotel, Northampton, the President (Mr. W. McKinnell) in the chair. There was a representative attendance. Before proceeding with the ordinary business, the President feelingly referred to the great loss the Association had sustained since its previous meeting by the death of Mr. John Clower, a Vice-President. The deceased gentleman's thoughtful speeches and papers and his cheerful presence were ever welcome, and by his death they had lost a very dear friend. Mr. W. D. Mayger, as the oldest chemist present, moved a vote of condolence with the widow and family of the late Mr. Clower, and paid a warm tribute to the many qualities of the deceased gentleman. Mr. E. C. Ashford seconded, and Mr. F. Cowdery, the Hon. Secretary, and Mr. W. Lucas, supported the vote, which was carried. The work of the Association during the past year was commented upon by several of the speakers, and much satisfaction expressed at the thoroughness with which the formation of the branch had been justified by the spirit of unity and good-fellowship engendered among the members.

Photographic Notes.

By a Pharmaceutical Camerist.

THE KODAK AGREEMENT.

Mr. Child Bayley, the editor of *Photography*, is organising a protest against the Kodak agreement, to which reference has been made several times in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*. His idea is to form a body of protestors under the title of the Free Camera Club, so as to give the Kodak Company an idea of the tremendous opposition there is to their scheme amongst photographers, amateur and professional, as well as amongst dealers. Mr. Bayley gives some particulars of his scheme in a temperate letter to the *Times*, and dealers who are not already working for the objects of the club, can get particulars by addressing him at 1 Cloisters, The Temple, E.C.

A FIXING-DISH.

Bearing in mind the fact that solutions are best made by suspending the solid in the upper part of the liquid, it occurs to me that if a plate were supported face downwards

in the fixing-bath, the operation of fixing would be much facilitated. There would not be much difficulty in having fixing-dishes made with a kind of well so that the plate is supported by the corners, face downwards.

DARK-ROOMS.

Mr. R. Ross, chemist, Largs, N.B.
Mr. B. Carter, chemist, Lemon Street, Truro.
Mr. W. T. Blewett, chemist, Hayle, Cornwall.
Mr. F. W. Cannon, High Street, Baldock, Herts.
Mr. B. Binks, chemist, 13 Fore Street, St. Austell.

Figure of the Eye as a Trade-mark.

At York Police Court on Thursday, George Coverdale, pharmaceutical chemist, York, was summoned in respect to having, with intent to defraud, unlawfully forged or falsely applied a certain trade-mark—to wit, the print of the human eye (the registered trade-mark of Thomas Ison)—so as to be calculated to deceive, contrary to the statute made and provided. Mr. Child (Leeds) prosecuted. Mr. Wilkinson (York) defended, and took objection to the wording of the summons. The Marks Act enacted, he said, that the trade-mark must be applied to goods, but that was not stated in the summons. Mr. Child said that he would proceed on the charge of forging the trade-mark alone. He stated that Thomas Ison, prosecutor, was an oculist of Leeds, and had been in possession of the registered trade-mark—the print of a human eye—for some years. He pointed out that the penalty for forging a trade-mark was fine or imprisonment, and then argued that he did not allege an intent to defraud, as it was not necessary to do so, it having been proved that defendant sold two packets of eye-drops containing bills bearing a facsimile of the human eye used by Mr. Ison as his trade-mark. Mr. Wilkinson, for the defence, contended that Mr. Ison had not suffered any damage from the alleged wrongful action of defendant. Had he done so he would have sought redress in a civil court. He also argued that unless complainant proved an intent to defraud he would fail to substantiate the charge. Mr. Coverdale gave evidence to the effect that as soon as the matter was brought to his notice by complainant he withdrew all objectionable circulars, and gave an undertaking not to use them again. The Bench imposed a fine of 2s. 6d., but made no order as to costs.

Recent Wills.

DRAPER.—Probate of the will, dated November 5, 1894, of Mr. Carter Napier Draper, principal of the firm of Messrs. Bewley & Draper, chemists and druggists, Mary Street, Dublin, and Consuelo, Cowper Road, Rathmines, who died on March 9, has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Mary Stewart Draper, and James Alexander Denning, 12 Trinity Street, Dublin, solicitor, and Peter Goode Holloway, Crumlin, Dublin, to the last named of whom the testator bequeathed 50%, and to his wife 30%, the use and enjoyment of his house and furniture, and the income during her widowhood of the residue of his property, or, in the event of her re-marriage, an annuity for the remainder of her life of 300%. Subject to her interest, testator left his residuary estate in trust for all or any of his children as Mrs. Draper may appoint, or in default of appointment in equal shares for all of his children. His estate has been valued at 12,827*l.* 2s. 8d.

HOWARD.—The will of the late Colonel Samuel Lloyd Howard, of Goldings, Loughton, Essex, and formerly of the firm of Howards & Sons, Stratford, shows personal estate of the net value of 37,639*l.*, the gross value of the whole of the estate being 46,402*l.* Deceased made bequests to various metropolitan charities.

SAUNDERS.—The will of Sir Edwin Saunders, F.R.C.S., L.D.S., surgeon-dentist to her late Majesty, and Vice-President of the British Dental Association, who died on March 15 last, has been proved by Dame Miriam Saunders, the widow, Mr. W. F. Forsyth, 24 George Street, Hanover Square, and Mr. G. C. Bompas, 4 Great Winchester Street, E.C., by whom the testator's estate is sworn at 107,158*l.* 0s. 7d.

SHEFFIELD SLANDER CASE.—At the Sheffield Pharmaceutical Society's Ball some time ago, a doctor and a nurse attended, and the hall-keeper made a statement in respect to their conduct to Mr. Squire (President of the Association). Mr. Squire told the Secretary, who got further particulars from the hall-keeper. The net result was that the nurse sued the hall-keeper for slander, and got 100*l.* damages at the Leeds Assizes. Defendant appealed to the High Court, and on Thursday the Master of the Rolls, with Lords Justices Williams and Romer, upheld the Leeds decision.

The Royal Society.

THE *conversazione* held on May 8 was a brilliant affair. The President (Sir Wm. Huggins) received the visitors, these including Lord Kelvin, Sir Joseph Hooker, Sir Frederick Bramwell, Sir W. H. Præce, Sir Norman Lockyer, Sir Joseph Fayer, Mr. J. W. Swan, Sir William Crookes, Professor Dewar, Professor Armstrong, Sir Wm. Abney, Dr. Ludwig Mond, Professor Ray Lankester, Sir Thomas Barlow, Sir F. Abel, Dr. Pye-Smith, Sir Wm. Roberts-Austen, Sir T. Lauder Brunton, Sir Jas. Crichton Browne, Sir Henry Roscoe, and Sir Henry Trueman Wood.

THE EXHIBITS

are always a feature of a Royal Society *conversazione*, and although there were not so many novelties as on some former occasions there were several of interest to chemists, which we indicate.

The School of Tropical Medicine, Liverpool, had twelve new specimens of blood filariæ of birds. The embryos occur in the blood and lymph channels, whilst the adult filariæ are found chiefly in the subcutaneous tissues. There were also microscope specimens illustrating the life-history of *Ankylostoma duodenale*, an intestinal parasite of the chimpanzee.

Mr. Mackenzie Davidson, in addition to some stereoscopic radiographs of bullets in the leg, taken during the South African War, had some stereoscopic transparencies of electrical discharges, which prove that the beaded appearance often seen in electrical discharges is due to zigzag discharges being seen end-on.

Mr. Killingworth Hedges showed a collection of fulgurites from the sand-hills of Kensington, N.S.W. Fulgurites are fused tubes produced in sand, earth, or rocks by the action of lightning.

The Bacteriological Laboratory of the Jenner Institute of Preventive Medicine exhibited several kinds of luminous bacteria. These, Dr. Macfadyen informed us, were collected from sea-water, and up to now fourteen kinds have been isolated. The luminous properties are dependent on a supply of free oxygen and a suitable proportion of any soluble chloride in the nutritive medium. When the flasks containing the cultures are shaken, the contents exhibit a green fluorescence similar to that shown by barium platino-cyanide under the influence of x-rays.

Mr. J. Wimshurst, who has been studying the properties of the light emitted by Röntgen-ray tubes, exhibited radiographs illustrating (1) that the rays start from a point on the anode from which they radiate with about equal efficiency throughout the whole of the illuminated hemisphere; (2) that the rays act not only in a direct line from the anode, but fill the whole apartment; (3) that the rays can enter and pass through a metal tube placed at a right angle to the direct line of the ray; and (4) that the reflected x-rays can produce photographs.

The Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company exhibited one of Callendar & Griffith's patent temperature-indicators. The instrument consists of a portable galvanometer combined with a Wheatstone bridge, so arranged that by turning a couple of milled heads the temperature of a platinum thermometer can be read off directly in degrees centigrade.

The Carl Zeiss Optical-works showed a stereoscopic binocular range-finder, the special feature of which is that microscopical marks and numbers, drawn to scale, reduced by photography, and transferred to the glass in the flat field of vision, enable distances to be estimated without the calculations necessary with most other range-finders.

The Director of the Natural-History Section of the British Museum, amongst other things, exhibited three trephined skulls of natives of the Bismarck Archipelago. The trephining had been very neatly done, and the skulls are of special interest from the fact that the clinical history of the original owners is known.

Dr. Dawson Turner had a new mechanical interrupter for an induction coil. The contact is made and broken between two rollers immersed in paraffin. The rollers are mechanically rotated at the same time, so that the surfaces of contact maintain their original form.

Prof. Callendar showed a standard barometer, in which elaborate precautions are taken to ensure accurate readings of atmospheric pressure.

Photographs of Nova Persei were exhibited by Sir J. Norman Lockyer, and photographic spectra by the Rev. W. Sidgreaves and Mr. Frank McClean.

The Zoological Society of London had two living specimens of the heloderm, the only known venomous lizard, on show.

Dr. J. H. Gladstone exhibited samples of ancient Egyptian gold from tombs of the kings of the first dynasty. Analysis shows that the gold contains 13 to 18 per cent. of silver.

Prof. A. W. Rüchker had some specimens of atmospheric dust which fell at Taormina, Sicily, in March, giving rise to red rain. The dust is of a coppery-brown colour.

Sir W. Roberts-Austen showed large masses of chromium, manganese, ferro-titanium, and cobalt, reduced by Goldschmidt's method from the oxides.

Dr. P. L. Slater exhibited the original drawing by Sir Harry Johnston of the newly-discovered animal, the okapi, *Helladotherium Johnstoni*. There were also two bandoliers shown, made from the skin of the animal. The okapi has striped legs and hindquarters like a zebra, the body is chestnut-coloured, and the head is shaped like a horse's.

The Telegraphone Syndicate gave demonstrations of the telegraphone, an instrument for recording telephonic messages and re-transmitting them identically as spoken. The apparatus is the invention of Mr. Poulsen, of Copenhagen.

Seychelles Notes.

(From a Seychelles Correspondent.)

A CHEMIST WANTED.

We are again without a qualified chemist at Seychelles. Mr. Watson, formerly of Melbourne, who had been established here for two or three years, died very suddenly a few weeks ago. This is in every way a great loss to the community. There is, I think, certainly an opening for a hard-working and pushing English chemist here. The capital required would be relatively very small. He would have a good clientèle right away, with nothing to pay for goodwill. There are twenty thousand people in Seychelles at present, all of whom would be compelled to buy their medicines from the chemist at Port Victoria. Until a new chemist arrives the Government allow their medicines to be sold at the public hospital, but as soon as a qualified chemist opens shop the Government will, of course, cease selling. A knowledge of French would be very useful. [Anyone wishing to know more about the Seychelles generally should apply to "Seychelles," c/o the C. & D.—EDITOR.]

VANILLA.

Our next year's vanilla-crop promises to be a very good one. The rains in November, however, prevented it being the bumper crop it then appeared to promise. The owners of the mountain-vanilla estates were the heaviest losers owing to the rain. It came down steadily just a day or two before the great flowering days, the result being that thousands of flowers were not fecundated. The area under vanilla in the Colony is steadily increasing. There are a good many diseased vines about all over the islands, but now, owing to each vine being kept distinctly separate from its neighbour, the fell vanilla-disease cannot cause the ruin of our plantations as it did in 1889 and following years.

SOAP.

The exports of soap from the Seychelles per the British India steamers to Zanzibar and the East Coast of Africa continue to expand. Consequently caustic soda is being imported here in increasing quantities. The bulk of it comes from Newcastle-on-Tyne. One of the chief causes of the flourishing state of our soap industry is the low price at which cocoanut oil has been selling. This oil is only worth now about 1.60r. per velt (1½ gal.), instead of over 2r. a year or two ago.

GUANO.

The exports of so-called "guano" from the Admirantes Islands (a dependency of Seychelles) are also increasing. Shiploads have been sent recently from Remire Island to Durban and Mauritius. As I think I already told you, this stuff is only rich in phosphates, but it is an excellent material to use as a basis with which to mix other kinds of fertilisers.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. : May 9.

TRADE shows no improvement in drugs and chemicals, and with the exception of a substantial advance in cocaine, alterations in values (apart from the drug-auctions) are few. Menthol can be had at easier prices on the spot. Cassia oil comes firmer from China, and the demand has slightly improved. The stocks of cannabis indica are becoming concentrated, and full prices are being obtained. Chiretta has been sold at a low figure. The demand for corrosive sublimate is maintained, and makers have a difficulty in fulfilling orders for prompt shipment. Cyanide of potash is looking up, as was to be expected, but prices are unchanged. Bismuth salts generally are in fair inquiry. The following are the principal changes of the week, including those recorded at the drug-auctions:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Balsam tolu	Oil, cassia	Acid, citric	Arsenic
Cascarilla	Lime-juice	Calumba	Colocynth
Cinchona		Camphor	Cus cus
Cocaine		(crude)	Dragon's-blood
Cocoa-butter		Guaiacum	
Ginger		Menthol	
Guarana		Sarsaparilla	
Nutmegs		Spermaceiti	
Oil, lime (W.I.)		Shellac	
		Wax, bees' (Jam.)	

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from May 2 to 8 (both inclusive):—Arrowroot (St. V.), 1,892 brls.; "balsams" (@ Hamburg), 10; benzoin, (@ Singapore) 14, (@ Penang) 125; bromine (@ Hamburg), 167 cs.; calumba, (@ Marseilles) 299, (@ Hamburg) 8; camphor (@ Kobe), 1,650 cases; cardamoms, 81; cascara sagrada, 217; castor oil (Fr.) 243 brls. 40 cs., (E.I.) 493 cks., (Ital.) 60 cs.; chamomiles, 18; chaulmoogra oil (@ Calcutta), 10 cs.; chillies (@ Kobe), 135; cinchona, (@ Calcutta) 139, (@ Ceylon) 78, (@ Cochin) 325; citronella oil, 29 drums; cod-liver oil, 21; colocynth, 3; coriander-seed, 25; cream of tartar, 20; cubebs, 109; drugs, (@ Colon) 11 pkgs., (@ Marseilles) 33 bls., (@ Rotterdam) 10 bls., (@ Hamburg) 20 bgs., (@ Monte Video) 165 bls., (@ Trieste) 187 pkgs., (@ Fiume) 61 pkgs., (@ Leghorn) 25 cs.; eucalyptus oil (Aust.), 28; fenel-seed, 166; fenugreek-seed (Mo.), 555; gentian, 48; ginger (Jamaica) 77, (W.C.A.) 605, (@ Yokohama) 300, (@ Hong-Kong) 150 cs.; gum arabic, (@ Alexandria) 89, (@ Morocco) 56; gum tragacanth (@ Constantinople), 44; heliobore, 5; insect-powder, (@ Trieste) 90 brls., (@ Fiume) 15; kola (W.C.A.), 13; musk (@ Shanghai), 2 bxs.; nux vomica (@ Cochin), 459; orange-peel (@ Marseilles), 45 cs.; opium (@ Constantinople), 70; orris (Ital.), 61; otto of rose, 1 cs.; potash prussiate, 29 cks.; prussiate of soda, 18 cks.; quicksilver (Ital.), 500; roots, (@ Marseilles) 56 bls., (@ N.Y.) 25 bls., (@ Bahia) 26 bgs.; saccharin, 4; saffron (@ Alicante), 1; salicylic acid, 25; senna (@ Suez), 17 pkgs.; shellac (@ Calcutta) 2,857, button ditto, 483; soy (Chin.), 100; tamarinds (W.I.) 84, (E.I.) 133; turmeric (Madras), 100; vanilla (Mauritius), 4 cs.; wax, bees', (@ Marseilles) 3 cs. 281 pkgs., (@ Mogador) 3 cks., (@ Calcutta) 42, (@ Australia) 7, (Ital.) 10.

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market centres other than London.] There is little of change or of special importance to be reported regarding the general condition of the heavy-chemical market. Shipments on export account are brisker, but otherwise business

at all the principal centres keeps steadily on the quiet side. Values, generally speaking, stand unchanged and are fairly well maintained.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Recent quotations still rule, and demand keeps about the same.

SULPHOCYANIDES are still dull and show no improvement in price. Potassium, 7½d. per lb.; barium, 95 per cent., 4d. per lb.; and ammonium, 95 per cent., 6d. per lb.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA steadily maintains a firmer tone and quotations are again higher. Beckton, 10l. 10s.; Beckton terms, 10l. 7s. 6d. to 10l. 8s. 9d.; London, 10l. 8s. 9d.; Leith, 10l. 10s.; and Hull, 10l. 7s. 6d. to 10l. 8s. 9d.

SATINITE in steady request, both for home and export, at 3l. 5s. to 3l. 15s. per ton, free on rails or free on board in usual casks.

PEARL-HARDENING continues to move well, at 3l. 7s. 6d. to 3l. 12s. 6d. per ton.

TIN CRYSTALS in fair demand and steady, at 8d. to 8½d. per lb.

SATIN-WHITE somewhat quiet and prices are a shade easier: 4l. 15s. to 5l. 5s. per ton in usual casks free on rails.

SAL AMMONIAC steady at unchanged rates of 39l. and 37l. per ton for firsts and seconds respectively.

PHOSPHORUS unchanged. Wedges, 2s. per lb.; sticks, 2s. 1d. per lb.; amorphous, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 7d. per lb.

WHITE POWDERED ARSENIC is still very dull and value is weak at about 15l. 15s. to 16l. per ton, Garston.

Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, May 8

CASTOR OIL.—The full prices for good seconds Calcutta, which have characterised the market for some weeks past, are maintained, but the business has only been of a retail character at prices ranging from 4¼d. to 4½d. per lb. A larger volume of business would have been possible had stocks been available. For forward shipment prices are still fully maintained, and in some positions show a marked advance. First-pressure French is still steadily receding, and spot parcels are changing hands at 3¼d. per lb., while, to arrive near at hand, this figure might even be shaded. Sales of second pressure French have been made at 3½d., but holders would now probably shade this price. English first-press is available at 3¼d. per lb.

BEESWAX.—Seven packages of pale Argentine fetched 7l. 10s. per cwt.; 6 packages pale yellow were held at 7l. 15s., and 3 packages grey changed hands at 7l. 2s. 6d. Ten cwt. of fair yellow Chilian found buyers at 7l. 12s. 6d., also 10 sacks grey at 7l. 2s. 6d. per cwt. An arrival of 50 packages Chilian is reported.

QUILLATA is unchanged in value at 13l. to 13l. 15s. per ton, and recent arrivals have been taken from the quay without holders showing any disposition to meet buyers' views.

ACACIA.—Further arrivals of Soudan sorts have taken place, and 50 serons of fair white soft are available at 57s. 6d.; other grades in proportion up to 75s. per cwt.; 30 serons Ghezireh gum sold at 32s. 6d. per cwt.

GINGER.—At auction, 37s. was bid for part of a lot of 186 bags Cochín, but the buyers ultimately paid 39s. per cwt. The balance of the parcel is held for 41s. New crop African sold in quantity at 32s. per cwt., and to arrive this grade has been selling freely at 31s. 6d.

LINSEED OIL has continued to advance, and now holders are quoting 31s. 6d. to 32s. per cwt. for raw, naked.

TURPS show a somewhat easier tendency, and 27s. 6d. to 28s. per cwt. may be taken as the value.

CANARY-SEED is almost featureless at the recent range of values, namely, 33s. to 33s. 6d. per quarter.

LINSEED.—About 1,000 bags of Turkish seed have realised 46s. 6d. per quarter during the week. Other grades are dearer in proportion.

COPAIBA.—At auction, 1 barrel bright Maranham sold at 2s. 3d., and the 2 remaining barrels, bright, were held for 2s. 3½d. per lb. Fair cloudy was held for 2s. 2d.; cloudy, 2s. 1d. per lb.

KOLA-NUTS.—Twelve bags fair quality sold at 1¼d. to 1½d., and 2 bags at 3d.

JABORANDI.—Eight bales have arrived, and will be placed on the market shortly.

HONEY.—Chilian is slow of sale. Pile X. has been sold at 32s. 6d. to 33s., and Pile I. at 27s. 6d. to 28s. per cwt.

WAX, CARNAUBA.—Prices tend upwards and demand has improved, with fairly large sales, which include 110 bags yellow, at 61s. 3d. to 63s. 6d. per cwt for fair Pernambuco and Ceara, with good Ceara at 66s. 3d. to 67s. 6d.; 60 bags ordinary to good medium Ceara, at 48s. to 57s. 6d.; and 475 bags Maranham Ceara and Pernambuco grey, at 43s. to 45s. per cwt.

American Drug Market.

New York, April 23.

The market is quiet but steady, and fluctuations are not important. Demand is almost wholly of a jobbing character.

ALOES.—There is some inquiry for Curaçoa, and values are steady at 4c. to 4½c.

ASAFETIDA.—There is still a scarcity of prime quality, and quotations are firm, at 30c. to 35c. for the better grades.

BEESWAX has sold at 28½c. to 29c. for ordinary yellow. Demand is good and prices firmer.

ANISE OIL has been reduced to \$1 30c.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—There is a heavy demand for Central American and values are firm at 33c. to 40c. Para is almost out of the market.

BALSAM TOLU is dull, and quotations easy at 28c. to 30c.

CASSIA OIL is easier, and high-test oil can be obtained at 80c. to 85c., according to quality.

GINGER.—Unbleached Jamaica is firmer at 8c., and bleached at 12c.

JALAP has sold heavily. Prime quality root is scarce, and firm at 13c. to 14c. About 75,000 lbs. are reported sold, presumably for speculative purposes, as primary markets are said to be almost bare of supplies.

IPECACUANHA is quiet, with Rio slightly easier at \$2.85.

MENTHOL is now offering at \$4.15 per lb.

OPIUM is steadily advancing, \$3.35 being the present quotation. There is no improvement in demand, and the advance is due entirely to cable advices from primary sources.

QUININE is quiet. Contrary to expectations, no advance was recorded after the last bark sales, and quotations remain unchanged at 32c. to 34c. Java is offered at 30c. per oz.

SENEGAL.—Western is dull, at 35c. to 36c. per lb.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, May 7

Our drug-market shows very little business, and there are only a few changes in prices since last week.

CITRIC ACID is a shade quieter, at 297m. per 100 kilos.

CASCARA SAGRADA is tending firmer and dearer, at 48m. per 100 kilos.

CAMPHOR (REFINED) is quiet, with second-hand at 457m. per 100 kilos.

CEVIDILLA-SEED is unchanged, at 85m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT is firmer; to-day's quotation for Russian is 425m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium keeps quiet, at 420m. per 100 kilos.

IPECACUANHA.—Cartagena is dull, at 14½m. per kilo., and Rio is unchanged at 29m.

MENTHOL is dull, and can be bought at 25½m. per kilo.

QUILLAIA continues firm, at 29½m. per 100 kilos.

SUGAR OF MILK is quieter, at 87½m. per 100 kilos.

JALAP is still very firm, at from 105m. to 120m. per 100 kilos., according to quality.

STAR-ANISE is quiet, at 125m. per 100 kilos.

QUININE unchanged, at 45m. per kilo.

COCAINE has been advanced 100m. per kilo.

COD-LIVER OIL closes a trifle firmer again, at 60m. per barrel for non-congealing oil.

LINSEED OIL is excited; spot stocks are almost exhausted.

CASTOR OIL is slow of sale, first-pressing in barrels at 62m., and May delivery at 60m. per 100 kilos.

ESSENTIAL OILS are very quiet, and practically unchanged.

Cablegrams]

AMSTERDAM, May 9, 4 13 P.M.:—The auctions of cinchona-bark held here to-day consisted of 7,515 packages, of which 7,378 packages sold at an average unit of 10 c. per half-kilo., against 8 95c. per half-kilo paid at the auctions on March 28. The following were the approximate quantities of quinine purchased by the principal buyers:—English and American factories, who purchased the equivalent of 13,346 kilos.; the Brunswick factory, 4,420 kilos.; the Mannheim and Amsterdam factories, 5,180 kilos.; the Frankfort-on-Main and Stuttgart factories, 4,340 kilos.; and various buyers, 3 115 kilos. The prices paid for the manufacturing bark ranged from 13 c. to 11¼ c. per half-kilo., and druggists' bark from 12¼ c. to 107c.

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HAMBURG, May 9, 1 41 P.M.:—Agar-agar is quieter on this market. Carnauba wax is firmer in tone, but refined camphor in second-hands remains unchanged at former values.

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NEW YORK, May 9, 3 20 P.M.:—Quiet conditions prevail here. Opium has declined to \$3 25 per lb. in case-lots. Cocaine has been advanced to \$6. American oil of peppermint is stronger at \$1.20 per lb. for bulk oil, and \$1.40 for HGH. Buchu is easier at 28c. per lb., and golden seal is dull of sale at 49c. Russian ergot is lower; 50c. per lb. is now quoted. Rio ipecac. can be had at \$2.85 per lb., and Cartagena is easier at \$2 per lb.

London Markets.

ACID, CITRIC.—Quiet and easier with sellers at 1s. 4¾d. to 1s. 5d. per lb.

ARROWROOT.—Quiet. At auction on Wednesday fine St. Vincent's was bought in at 4d. per lb.

BISMUTH SALTS are in good demand (especially carbonate) at the recent reduction.

CANNABIS INDICA.—A sale of tops was made last week at 2s. 9d. per lb., but in second-hands there is a seller at 2s. 2d.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—The recent scarcity on the spot last month has been relieved by several arrivals, and importers now quote 26s. per cwt. in ton-lots for new bark. The sailer *Springburn* from San Francisco has arrived in London with 217 sacks.

CHIRETTA.—A considerable quantity has been cleared off the market at 2½d. per lb.

COCAINE.—Dearer. At the end of last week makers advanced their quotations by 3s. per oz., and now quote 20s. 9d. for 200-oz. lots on contract. This has resulted in a good inquiry in second-hands, and limited quantities have been sold at 6d. to 9d. under makers' figures.

COCOA-BUTTER.—At the London auction, 550 cases Cadbury's brand sold at 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 2¾d. per lb., the average being 1s. 2¾d., or an advance of ¾d. At the Dutch sale on Tuesday, 90 tons Van Houten's sold at 73½c. to 78¾c. (average price 77½c.), 7½ tons Helm. at 77c. to 77½c., and 11 tons De Jong at 77c. to 77½c., while of 4 tons Mignon offered, two sold at 77c.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Quiet. Best white French crystals are quoted 74s., powder 76s., and 98 per cent. powder 78s. per cwt.

ERGOT.—There is a slight inquiry, but up to Wednesday no business had been done. Russian is quoted 1s. 11½d. to 2s. per lb., c. i. f., and on the spot one holder quotes 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3d.

GUARANA has been advanced to 2s. 2d. per lb., owing to scarcity.

JALAP.—The tendency is towards higher prices, as the bulk of the stock in America has been purchased for speculative account. The stock here has been reduced to 84 packages. From 6½d. to 7d. per lb. spot is quoted. In auction 12 bags of over-dried Vera Cruz and Tampico mixed were taken out without mention of price.

LEMON-JUICE (CONC.) AND CITRATE OF LIME.—A Messina report dated May 1 reports that the demand during April was quiet, and prices declined considerably, 17l. 7s. 6d. per pipe, f.o.b., being quoted for both lines. Shipments were active, especially to France, but in fulfilment of old contracts.

MENTHOL.—Quiet and easier privately, with sellers of Kobayashi brand at 12s. 9d. to 13s. per lb., spot. It is reported that several parcels have been sold to Hamburg this week. There was no business in action.

MERCURIO CHLORIDE.—The demand still remains good, and makers find difficulty in fulfilling orders for shipment under two weeks.

OIL, ANISE STAR, has sellers at 5s. 3d. c. i. f., or 5s. 6d., spot. The tendency for arrival is firmer.

OIL, CASSIA, has slightly revived after a long period of depression, business to the extent of about 50 cases being done at 2s. 9d. per lb. c. i. f. for 70 to 75 per cent. oil. There are sellers on the spot at 3s. for 80 to 85 per cent.

OIL, CITRONELLA.—Business has been done to arrive at 9d. per lb., c. i. f. London, for ton lots.

OIL, LEMONGRASS.—Sellers ask 4d. per oz. spot, but no business of importance has been done.

OIL, OLIVE.—Prices for fine qualities are well maintained. Lucca cream is offered at from 65l. to 68l., and sublime at from 57l. 10s. to 62l. per ton of 1,045 kilos, f.o.b. Leghorn. A report from Messina, dated May 1, states that the exceptionally favourable weather has put the olive-trees in splendid condition; abundant blossoming is expected, and this may influence prices downwards.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—One importer quotes American HGH at 6s. per lb. spot net, and another 6s. 5d., less discount. In second-hands there is a seller at 6s. 3d.

POTASH, CYANIDE.—A better demand is reported by makers at unchanged prices. Mining strengths in contract quantities are quoted 10½d. per lb., and for druggists' from 1s. 3d. up to 1s. 8d., according to quantity.

POTASH PERMANGANATE.—Slow of sale, at 38s. per cwt. for small crystals.

QUININE.—A better feeling has prevailed in the second-hands this week, and more business has been done at firmer prices, especially for distant positions. Spot parcels have changed hands at 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 3¼d., June at 1s. 3½d., August 1s. 3¾d., and October 1s. 4d. to 1s. 4½d. per oz.

SPERMACE.—American is now quoted 1s. 3d. per lb., which is easier.

SPICES.—There has been a steady demand for pepper, and prices of both black and white are again dearer. At auction on Wednesday Cochin *Ginger* was steady: limed medium cut sold at 65s., and common limed medium and small native cut at 45s. to 45s. 6d. per cwt., good medium being bought in at 75s., and limed small at 55s.; good plump small, partly cut, sold at 49s., good bold washed rough at 41s., and cuttings at 32s. Calicut brown rough was held for 40s., and small ditto for 35s. per cwt. Jamaica sold with good competition at last week's rates. A parcel of Japan was bought in at 34s. per cwt. Penang *Cloves* sold at 9½d. per lb. for fine bright; but good were bought in at 7½d. and fair at 6½d. per lb. Zanzibar were bought in at 4¼d. per lb. The delivery market is quiet, and rather easier, at 4¾d. for June-August. Fine red picked Penang *Chillies* sold at 53s. per cwt. *Capsicums* were bought in at 28s. per cwt. for bright red cherries, and at 22s. to 25s. for ordinary East India. *Pimento* slow; a few lots sold—fair at 2½d., ordinary at 2¼d., and low at 2¼d. per lb. *Cassia lignea* sold "without reserve" at 44s. per cwt. for good new selected. Japan bark was withdrawn at 20s. per cwt. *Cinnamon-quillings* sold at 8d. per lb., *chips* being bought in at 3¼d. per lb. *Pepper* dearer; fine Ceylon sold at 6¼d., and fair Alleppy at 6d. per lb. Trang was bought in at 6¼d. Singapore is selling at 6½d. on the spot and at 6¾d. for distant shipment. Tellicherry has been sold at 6¾d. on the spot. Fine bold Singapore white sold at 1s. per lb., and fine Ceylon at 10½d. Penang was bought in at 8¾d. per lb. For arrival 9¾d. has been paid for Singapore, August-October steamer, and 8¾d. for Penang, June-August steamer.

SUGAR OF MILK.—Finest white American is quoted 47s. per cwt. in 200-lb. barrels and 45s. in ton-lots.

SULPHONAL.—Maker's price is unchanged, at 20s. 6d. per lb., with a reduction for 4-cwt. lots, and in second-hands there are sellers at 19s.

SULPHUR.—A report from Messina, dated May 1, states that shipments on old contracts during April were active, but new business being quiet, shippers sold their few and small offerings at a decline of 1s. 6d. to 2s. all round. The Anglo-Sicilian Company, as in the past, abstained from interfering, but let the market go. At Catania, where the stock is 30,000 tons less than last year, the Anglo-Sicilian Company has cleared out its old stock at below market rates. Since then, however, prices have recovered. For delivery, after the new melting (August-September) there are sellers 1s. to 1s. 6d. below current prices, which are:—Best unmixed seconds, 77s.; best thirds, 68s.; refined block, 82s. 6d.; refined roll, 90s. per ton of 13 Sicil cantars, f.o.b. Sublimed flowers, 98s. 6d.; superior, 96s.; and current, 94s. per ton of 20 cwt., f.o.b.

TRAGACANTH.—At the auctions last week 4,000 odd packages were brought forward, of which about 800 sold (principally the lower grades of Bagdad) at a decline of 20s. to 30s. Firsts and seconds sold at 14l. to 10l., thirds 9l. to 11l., and fourths 7l. to 8l. per cwt. Since the auctions the market has been quiet, and with further large shipments on the way, values are not likely to improve.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT COMPANY (LIMITED).—The directors recommend a final dividend on the ordinary shares for the year 1900 of 15 per cent., free of income-tax, making, with the interim dividend, 20 per cent. for the year.

London Drug-actions.

THERE was a fair demand at the auctions of first-hand goods to-day. The features of the sale were the abundant supplies of Jamaica honey and tamarinds. Buchu sold at previous prices, cascarrilla was dearer, cardamoms were irregular, and colocynth was easier. Both Rio and Cartagena were slow of sale, and sarsaparilla was easier. The following table shows the goods offered and sold, the asterisk denoting private sales:—

Offered			Sold			Offered			Sold		
Aconite (Jap.)	20	...	0	Lime-juice	17	...	7	Albumen	11	...	3*
Albomen	11	...	3*	Menthol	10	...	0	Aloes—			
East African	15	...	15	Musk-grain	4	...	0	Socotrine	41	...	0
Socotrine	41	...	0	Musk-pods	2	...	0	Ambergris	7	...	1
Bael-fruit	9	...	9	Musk-seed	1	...	1	Bael-fruit	9	...	9
Balsam copaiba	27	...	4	Myrrh	3	...	3	Peru	2	...	0
Peru	2	...	0	Oil—				Tolu	25	...	25
Benzoin—				bay	2	...	2	Sumatra	118	...	10
Palembang	19	...	0	castor (E.I.)	50	...	0	Bird-lime	30	...	0
Sumatra	118	...	10	cinnamon	7	...	0	Buchu	21	...	21
Cinnamon	7	...	0	citronella	6	...	0	Calumba	91	...	39
Cascarilla	17	...	17	eucalyptus	30	...	0	Camphor (Jap)			
Cassia fistula	48	...	2	lemon-grass	23	...	0	crude	100	...	0
Chaulmoogra seed	25	...	0	lime	1	...	1	Canella alba	209	...	15
Cinchona	16	...	14	peppermint (Jap)	10	...	0	Cardamoms	27	...	205
Coca-leaves	8	...	8	rose (E.I.)	9	...	0	Cascarilla	17	...	17
Colocynth	3	...	3	Orange-peel	37	...	0	Cassia fistula	48	...	2
Cus Cus	42	...	17	Orris	30	...	0	Chaulmoogra seed	25	...	0
Dragon's-blood	5	...	1	Quince-seed	8	...	0	Cinchona	16	...	14
Gamboge	11	...	0	Rhubarb	12	...	12	Coca-leaves	8	...	8
Guaiaacum	4	...	4	Sarsaparilla	122	...	95	Colocynth	3	...	3
Gum acacia	54	...	0	Senna, Mecca	23	...	0	Cus Cus	42	...	17
Herbs	8	...	8	Timnevelly	113	...	74	Dragon's-blood	5	...	1
Honey (Australian)	23	...	0	Soy (Chinese)	2	...	2	Gamboge	11	...	0
Cuban	7	...	0	Snake-root	8	...	1*	Guaiaacum	4	...	4
Jamaica	677	...	270	Sugar of milk	10	...	0	Gum acacia	54	...	0
Ipecacuanha—				Tamarinds (E.I.)	50	...	0	Herbs	8	...	8
(Cartagena)	31	...	5	Wax (bees')—				Honey (Australian)	23	...	0
(Rio)	34	...	1*	Australian	13	...	13	Cuban	7	...	0
Jalap	12	...	0	Californian	11	...	0	Jamaica	677	...	270
Kino	23	...	0	East Indian	51	...	0	Ipecacuanha—			
				Jamaica	30	...	17	(Cartagena)	31	...	5
				Madagascar	439	...	0	(Rio)	34	...	1*
				Morocco	142	...	0	Jalap	12	...	0
				Spanish	31	...	0	Kino	23	...	0
				Zanzibar	199	...	99				
				Wax (Japan)	100	...	0				

ALOE.—Slow of sale. The Socotrine offered were all held at 72s. 6d. to 75s. per cwt., according to quality; sales privately have been made at 72s. 6d. Fifteen cases of East African imported in August, 1900, but not previously offered, were forced off without reserve, at 23s. per cwt. No Cape or Curaçao offered.

AMBERGRIS.—A tin containing 17 oz. fine grey sold at 100s. per oz., subject. Six other packages were bought in without mention of price.

BAEL FRUIT in slices sold without reserve at 2d. per lb.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Four cases of thick opaque Cartagena sold at 1s. 8½d. per lb., and for 3 casks good bright Maranham 2s. 5d. was wanted.

BALSAM TOLU advanced 1d. per lb. in sale to-day, 1s. 1d. being paid for fair hard balsam in large tins, and 1s. for slightly drossy.

BENZOIN.—Quiet. Of 85 cases Sumatra offered 14 only sold, including 8 cases good fair seconds at 8l. per cwt., subject, and ordinary seconds at 6l. Good Palembang was bought in at 52s. 6d. per cwt., and no Siam offered. Privately there has been a fair demand for Sumatra seconds, at from 6l. 10s. to 7l. per cwt.

BUCHU sold well at the previous auction prices, 1s. to 1s. 2d. per lb. being paid for fair to good round green leaf

CALUMBA.—Fair quantities are coming forward, but mostly dull description. In auction 20 bags ordinary natural sorts sold at 14s. to 14s. 6d. per cwt., and 16 bags dark lean tongue at 10s.

CANELLA ALBA sold at unchanged rates, 50s. being paid for medium to bold palish quill.

CARDAMOMS were in fair demand, opening at lower prices, but as the sale proceeded values became irregular; the medium and lower grades sold at full-up prices generally, and fine were about unchanged. The following prices were paid:—Ceylon-Mysore, extra bold pale selected, 4s. to 4s. 3d.; medium to bold pale, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; good medium pale (partly open), 2s. 5d. to 2s. 7d.; small and medium (partly open), 2s. to 2s. 4d.; long lean pale, 1s. 11d. to 2s.; small pale, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 7d.; brown and split, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. Seeds, 1s. 10d. to 2s. per lb. Ceylon-Malabar, small brownish, 1s. 5d.; and pickings, 1s. 3d.

CASCARILLA was about 5s. dearer in auction, small quill selling at 44s., and twiggy sea-damaged ditto at 33s. Ten barrels of siftings sold at 30s. to 31s. per cwt.

CASSIA FISTULA sold at unchanged rates, 26s. per cwt. being paid good pod, part ratty; 46 packages catalogued for auction had not arrived in time.

CINCHONA.—The shipments from Java from March 25 to May 5, 1901, amount to 979,000 Amst lbs., and the total from January 1 to May 5 is 3,052,825 Amst. lbs. In auction 10 serons Crown bark offered and sold at 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. for the Loxa, and 6½d. for Huanoco. A bale of flat Cartagena water-damaged sold at 3d., and for 2 bales of flat Calisaya 6d. is to be submitted.

COCA-LEAVES.—Ceylon were the only kind offered, the sound of which sold at 1s. to 1s. 5d. per lb. for fair to good bright, and 6d., subject, for the damaged.

COLOCYNTH.—The exports of colocynth from Jaffa during 1900 amounted to 45,500 lbs. (1,880½) against 33,550 lbs. (1,330½) in 1899. In auction 3 casks only were offered, of which 2 sold at 1s. 2d. per lb. for fair palish Turkey apple, and 9d. for broken.

CUS CUS.—A parcel, heavy with sand, sold cheaply at 12s. per cwt. Another lot of 25 bales better quality was held at 20s.

DRAGON'S BLOOD.—Four cases of good bright lump were held for 10½. 10s. per cwt, and a case of medium ditto sold cheaply at 7½. 10s.

GAMBOGE.—A second-hand parcel, consisting of two cases blocky dull pipe, was bought in at 10½., and very ordinary pickings at 9½. per cwt.

GUAIACUM.—Fair glassy block sold at 10½. per lb, and drossy at 6½. per lb.

HONEY.—Jamaica of the new crop is coming over in considerable abundance, and seldom has such a large quantity been offered. The bulk of it on show however, was set, in barrels, which sold at from 21s. 6d. up to 25s. per cwt, for fair to good white; ditto, in casks, sold at 20s. 6d.; kegs, 20s. to 20s. 6d. Good pale amber syrupy sold at 25s. 6d. and dark red in kegs at 20s., and in cases at 21s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt. Cuban: 7 tierces of dark liquid sold at 18s.

As already stated in the *C. & D.*, no duty is to be charged on importations of pure honey, but honey mixed with sugar will be liable to the proportionate sugar-duty. It further appears that the Customs are taking steps to distinguish by chemical analysis between natural and added sugar, and to confine the duty-charge to the latter.

IPECACUANHA.—The s.s. *Clyde* has arrived with 165 bales of drugs from Monte Video, but they are coming to the hands of a firm holder. This arrival was probably the reason why no Rio sold in auction to-day, a string of 34 bales being held at from 12s. 3d. to 12s. 6d. per lb. Cartagena was also slow of sale. Of 23 packages offered by one broker, four sold at 6s. 9d. for nice clean, 6s. 6d. for dusty, and 6s. for sea-damaged; from another catalogue an odd bag sold at 6s. 5d. Two other bags of fine clean root were taken out at 8s. per lb.

KINO.—Dull of sale. For small black grain from Madras 1s. 6d. was wanted, and for 10 cases ditto from Cochin 1s. 9d.

LIME-JUICE.—Seven puncheons raw West Indian were put up "without reserve," and sold at 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1½d. per gal. Ten other puncheons were taken out.

MUSK-SEED.—Jamaica of fair flavour sold at 1s. 7d. per lb.

MYRRH.—Three casks of good pale small to bold Aden sorts realised 75s. per cwt., subject to owner's approval.

OIL, BAY.—Two tins, representing a direct shipment from Montserrat, sold at 5s. 6d. per lb.

OIL, CASTOR.—Quiet. Best Italian water-white is quoted 35s. per cwt., and seconds in barrels 29s. to 30s., f.o.b. Leghorn. Hull make for June delivery is quoted 29½. 5s. per ton for firsts, and 28½. 5s. for seconds; July to December deliveries in equal monthly quantities, 28½. 5s., and 27½. 5s., respectively, barrels included, ex wharf London. Belgian firsts is quoted 29½. 10s. spot, ex warehouse. In auction a parcel of 50 cases good Calcutta seconds in cases was bought in at 4½d., the limit being 4½d. per oz.

OIL, LIME.—A case of West Indian distilled sold at 1s. 10d. per lb.

OIL, ROSE.—Threepence per oz. has been paid for 2 bottles of settlings; 5 pots of clear Bombay were taken out at 1s. per lb.

RHUBARB.—Twelve cases of extra fine flat Shensi of even pinky fracture sold at 2s. 10d. for the bold, 2s. 6d. for medium, and 1s. 2d. for the round and flat pickings of pinky and grey fracture. A fair demand is reported privately, mostly for common Canton and horny round high-dried; for the latter 6d. to 7d. has been paid.

SARSAPARILLA.—Grey Jamaica root was in better supply to-day, and changed hands at slightly easier rates, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. being paid for sound and 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d. for damaged. Twenty-five bales chumpy Guayaquil offered, and mostly sold, at 10d. to 1s. per lb. for damaged; and 11 bales of native Jamaica, mostly of mixed quality, were offered, and sold at from 7d. for common grey up to 1s. 1d. for good red.

SENNA.—The selection offered was poor, being mostly small and ordinary brownish Tinnevely leaf, for which 1d. to 1½d. per lb. was paid, and ½d. to ¾d. for common and low. Three bales of good Tinnevely pods sold at from 5½d. to 6½d. per lb.

SERPENTARY.—Seven bales were held for 1s. 5½d. per lb.; one bale had been sold privately.

TAMARINDS.—The new crop from the West Indies is arriving freely, and over 300 packages were offered to-day. Good pale fresh Antigua sold at from 11s. to 11s. 6d. per cwt., the broker guaranteeing the goods to be "sold free of duty." A parcel of 42 barrels from Barbados sold at 10s. per cwt. subject, and 84 casks Antiguan from another catalogue were not landed in time. East Indian were neglected.

WAX, BEES'.—The usual descriptions were well represented, but few lots changed hands, partly owing to the goods not being in time for sale. Jamaica was a little easier, selling at from 8½. 10s. to 8½. 15s. per cwt. No Madagascar sold, fair brown block being held for 7½. Good grey Australian realised 7½. to 7½. 12s. 6d., and for fair to dark brown Zarzibar block, 6½. 15s. to 7½. 15s. per cwt.

Coming Events.

Monday, May 13.

Dewsbury and District Chemists' Association, Church House Dewsbury, at 8.30. P.M. Ordinary meeting.

Wednesday, May 15.

Royal Microscopical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 7.30 P.M. Exhibition of aquatic life.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, W., at 8 P.M. Meeting re the proposed change of hour and day of meeting.

Plymouth.—Meeting of chemists, under the auspices of the Pharmaceutical Society, in the "Athenæum," at 3 P.M.

Thursday, May 16.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, W., at 8 P.M. "The Nutrition of Yeast, Part III," by Dr. A. L. Stern. "Derivatives of Methylfurfural," by Mr. H. J. H. Fenton and Miss M. Gostling. "The Preparation and Optical Inversion of Optically Active Nitrogen Compounds, Dextro- and Lævo-*α*-benzylphenylallylmethyl Ammonium Salts," by Mr. W. J. Pope and Mr. A. W. Harvey.

Exeter.—Meeting of chemists, under the auspices of the Pharmaceutical Society, in the Rougemont Hotel, Queen Street, at 4 P.M.